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FAMILY PRAYERS

COLLECTED FROM THE

SACRED SCRIPTURES, THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER,
AND THE WORKS OF BISHOP WILSON.

BY THE RIGHT REV. WILLIAM MEAD, D. D.
ASSISTANT BISHOP OF VIRGINIA.

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PREFACE.

The following prayers, with a few exceptions, and some alterations, have been used in the family of the compiler, alternately with other forms and extemporaneous addresses to the Throne of Grace, for many years. They are now offered to the public, not without the advice, and even importunity of some friends, in the hope that they will be both useful and acceptable. Nothing need be said in commendation of the sources from whence they are derived. The words which the Holy Ghost useth, and in which the saints of all ages have delighted to express their religious feelings, must be the most suitable of all others as the vehicle of prayer. Five of the following prayers are in that consecrated language. Others are taken from the book of Common Prayer, and are chiefly composed of collects used only on the Sabbath, and on certain public occasions, but whose superior excellency renders it desirable that they should be brought into more frequent use. The pious commentator, Mr. Thomas Scott, in speaking of the different books of devotion which he tried in the earlier part of his life, says, "but had I duly considered the subject, the common prayer book of our Church, with a little arrangement, would have supplied me with far more suitable words than any book of the kind I had then seen, or have ever yet seen. A selection of collects, parts of collects, and extracts from the litany, varied as circumstances should require, I am now fully convinced, might be rendered in all respects preferable to any

other forms which have been published." An attempt is here made to execute this design in some degree, and the author will be highly gratified if it shall lead some one else to fulfil it more perfectly. A moment's reflection will satisfy any one that from the character of the materials composing these forms, and the manner of their combination, it was impossible to arrange each one under the usual divisions of confession, supplication, thanksgiving, and intercession: it is hoped, however, that all these subjects will be found substantially incorporated in them, and that nothing is omitted which is requisite to aid the soul in true devotion. To some, perhaps, they may appear defective in length, but whoever will notice their striking comprehensiveness, will read them slowly and emphatically, giving the mind time to dwell on their true meaning, and the heart opportunity to raise its affections towards Heaven, will, it is believed, withdraw the objection, especially when they are used in families composed of persons of different ages and characters, whose uneasiness under lengthened exercises ought not to be disregarded. Such as they are, the author now presents them to the Christian public, in the humble hope, that by the divine blessing, they will render no inconsiderable help to many individuals and families in the most important of all transactions, their intercourse with Heaven.

April, 1834.

EXCELLENT REMARKS ON PRAYER,

BY BISHOP WILSON.

True devotion consists in having our hearts always devoted to God, as the sole fountain of all happiness, and who is ready to hear and to help his otherwise helpless and miserable creatures.

IT IS TO BE OBTAINED—

1stly. By earnest prayer! He that hungers and thirsts after righteousness will certainly be filled.

2dly. By possessing our hearts with a deep sense of our own misery and sinfulness, our wants and danger.

3dly. By considering God's goodness, power, and readiness to help.

Lastly. By convincing our hearts of the vanity of every thing else to afford us any real help or comfort.

Dying persons are generally more devout than others, because they then see their misery; that nothing in this world can help them, and that God is their only refuge.

The spirit of God will not dwell in a divided heart. We cannot feel the pleasures of devotion, while the world is our delight. Not that all pleasures are criminal, but the closer our union with the world, the less our union with God. A Christian, therefore, who strives after devotion, should taste sensual pleasures very sparingly; should make necessity, not bodily delight, his rule.

He that would be devout, must beware of indulging a habit of wandering in prayer; it is a crime that will grow upon us, and deprive us of the happiness we pray for.

Avoid, as much as may be, multiplicity of business. Neither the innocency nor the goodness of our employment will excuse, if it possess our hearts when we are praying to God.

Never be curious to know what passes in the world, any farther than duty obliges you; it will only distract the mind when it should be better employed.

Never intermit devotion, if you can help it; you will return to your duty like Sampson, shorn of his locks, weak and indifferent as other people of the world.

The oftener we renew our intercourse with God, the greater will be our devotion. Frequent prayer, as it is an exercise of holy thoughts, is a most natural remedy against the power of sin. Importunity makes no change in God, but it creates in us such dispositions as God thinks proper to reward.

Make it a law to yourself to meditate before you pray, as also to make certain pauses, to see if your hearts go along with your lips. They whose hearts desire nothing, pray for nothing.

He that has learnt to pray as he ought, has got the secret of a holy life.

The best way to prevent wandering in prayer, is not to let our minds wander too much at other times; but to have God always in our thoughts, in the whole course of our lives.

The end of prayer is not to inform God, but to give man a sight of his own misery and sinfulness; to raise his soul towards heaven, and to put him in mind that there is his father and inheritance.

It is rudeness among men to ask a favor, and not stay for an answer; and do we count it no fault to pray for blessings,

and never think of them afterwards? Never to wait for them? Never give God thanks for them?

Let us not run over our prayers with an insensible and distracted mind.

Let your prayer be as particular as may be against the sins of your particular state, for the graces which you in particular do most stand in need of. This is the best preservative against sin; makes us best acquainted with our condition; puts us continually in mind of mending what is amiss; lets us see what particular graces we most need, what are most needful for the cure of our own particular corruption and disorder.

The devil knows, that when we have a relish for prayer, and apply ourselves in good earnest to it, that we are in the way of life; he therefore strives, by every way possible, to divert us.

God will deny us no good thing that we really desire and ask in the name of his son; when we offer up our prayer through his mediation, it is then he that prays, his love that intercedes, his blood that pleads; it is he that obtains all from his father.

The neglect of prayer is very often punished by God's leaving men to themselves and to their own wicked ways; which ever did and ever will end in ruin.

The cause of which is plain; constant and wilful omission of this duty is a sure way to lose the knowledge and remembrance of God, his word and promises, and then men will have no motives to love or to fear God, nor any reason to hope for good from him. . . . . It will also very naturally lead people to depend upon themselves only; to forget their sad condition and misery, that they are liable to God's wrath, and even to damnation.

The most sure way to avoid this, is to dedicate some time, every day of our lives, to the worship of God; by doing this we shall retain God in our knowledge, provided it be performed out of a deep sense of our own wants and miseries, with a firm faith in God's promises to fulfil the desires of them that fear him, and with an eye to the blood of Jesus our Redeemer, for whose sake, and through whose suffering, we are reconciled to God, and God to us.

To begin and end the day with God is the likeliest way to make servants faithful, children dutiful, wives obedient, and husbands sober, loving, and careful, every one acting as in the sight of God.

This is the way to entail piety upon the generations to come. When children and servants come to have families of their own, they cannot be easy till they fall into the same serious method which they have been long used to.

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it; nor perhaps his children after him for many generations.

THE DUTY AND BENEFIT OF MORNING PRAYER.

Very many are the evil consequences of going without God into a world full of dangers and temptation, which, of ourselves, we can neither foresee nor escape. Whoever considers this, and the infinite mischief which may follow, will never venture abroad without praying for God's guidance, protection, and blessing, every morning of his life.

THE GREAT BENEFIT AND DUTY OF EVENING PRAYER.

Sleep, said a great man, is so much like death, that I dare not trust it without saying my prayers; and indeed, for fear of the worst, a thoughtful Christian will take care to make his peace with God before he goes to sleep, and put himself under God's protection every evening of his life, that he may be safe from the fear of evil.

PRAYER I.

FROM THE SCRIPTURES.—*Morning or Evening.*

Unto thee, O Lord, do we lift up our souls. Thou art worthy to receive blessing, and honor, and glory, and power; and for thy pleasure and thy praise, they are and were created. O Lord, we are ashamed, and blush to lift up our faces before thee; for our iniquities are increased over our heads, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens. If thou contend with us, we are not able to answer thee one of a thousand. The imaginations of the thoughts of our hearts have been evil, only evil, and that from our youth up.

How seldom art thou, O God, in all our thoughts. How unadvisedly have we spoken with our lips, when our spirits have been provoked within us. How have we grieved that Holy Spirit by which we are sealed unto the day of redemption. Thou mightest justly swear in thy wrath that we should never enter into thy rest. But, oh, the riches of the patience and forbearance of our God! how long suffering is he towards us, not willing that any should perish. O, that his goodness might lead us to repentance, and his long suffering prove our salvation.

Weary and heavy laden with the burden of our sins, we come to our Lord for rest. We would look unto him whom we have pierced with our sins, and mourn in bitterness. We would smite upon our breasts, and cry, God be merciful to us. May the love of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus, make us free from the love of sin and death. We bless thee that thou hast laid our help upon one so mighty to save, and who hast redeemed us from the curse of the law by being made a curse for us. We bless thee that he is still our advocate at thy right hand, and ever livest to make intercession for us. We bless thee for all the other benefits with which thou loadest us. Thy goodness is thy glory, and therefore do thy saints praise thee. Every day will we bless thee, and praise thy name for ever and ever. And let the people praise thee, O God; yea, let all the people praise thee. O, let all the nations upon earth be glad, and sing for joy. Let thy salvation and righteousness be openly showed in the sight of the heathen, and let all the ends of the earth see the salvation of our God. Add to thy church daily of such as shall be saved. Make thy ministers mighty in the scriptures, thoroughly furnished unto every good work. Bless the schools of the prophets in our land. Purify those fountains; and may streams issue therefrom, to make glad the city of our God, and refresh the whole earth. Make those

who abound in the goods of this world to be rich in good works, and willing to communicate of their store. Make the kings of the earth to be nursing fathers, and the queens to be nursing mothers to thy church; and soon may the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our Lord Jesus Christ; in whose name we offer up our prayers, and in the full meaning of whose blessed words we would sum up all our petitions at a throne of grace: Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER II.

FROM THE SCRIPTURES.—*Morning or Evening.*

O thou great and glorious God, who art from everlasting to everlasting, the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever, we would endeavor to lift up our hearts with our eyes and hands unto thee in the heavens. Who is a God like unto thee? glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders. O Lord, behold we are vile; what shall we answer thee? We will lay our hands on our mouths, and our mouths in the dust, if so there may be hope,

crying, unclean! unclean! It is of thy mercy that we are not consumed, because thy compassion fail not. If thou shouldst be strict to mark iniquity against us, who could stand? but there is forgiveness with thee, and plenteous redemption. O God, we would acknowledge and bewail our sins. We have walked in the ways of our own hearts, and in the sight of our own eyes, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind. We have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in his laws which he hath set before us. Even the good that we would, that we do not; and the evil that we would not, that we do. O, wretched creatures that we are, who shall deliver us? Truly our hope is in thee, O God. All our desire is before thee, and our groaning is not hid from thee. Though our sins have been as scarlet, let them be white as snow; though red like crimson, let them be as wool; and make us willing and obedient. O God, have compassion upon us, subdue our iniquities, and cast all our sins into the depth of the sea. O, that we may be found in Christ, not having our own righteousness, but the righteousness which is by faith. Justified by faith, may we have peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ. May the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, witness with our spirits that we are the children of God. May it fill us with all joy and peace in believing, and make us abound in hope. May we

adore the height, and depth, and length of that great love of Christ which passeth knowledge. O, that his way may be known upon earth, and his saving health among all nations. O God, give thy Son the heathen for his inheritance, and the uttermost part of the earth for his possession. Revive thy work in the midst of the years. Disappoint all those who take counsel together against the Lord, and against his anointed. Let no weapon formed against thy church prosper. May wisdom and knowledge be the stability of our times, and the fear of the Lord our treasure. May all Christians be perfectly joined together in the same mind, and in the same judgment. Hasten the time when wars shall cease unto the end of the world, and nation shall no more lift up sword against nation, nor kingdom against kingdom, but swords shall be beaten into ploughshares, and spears into pruning-hooks, and men shall learn war no more. Grant these prayers, O heavenly Father, for the sake of thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, in whose own words we would pray for ourselves, and all mankind: Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the

kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER III.

FROM THE SCRIPTURES.—*Morning or Evening.*

O thou King eternal, immortal, and invisible; clouds and darkness are round about thee, judgment and justice are the habitation of thy throne. Thou art the high and lofty one who inhabitest eternity, whose name is holy; and yet we bless thee that thou art not far from every one of us, being ever more ready to hear, than we to pray. With humble boldness we would approach unto thee by that new and living way which thou hast consecrated by the blood of Jesus. With angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, we would laud and magnify thy glorious name. Thou art our God, and we will praise thee; our fathers' God, and we will exalt thee. Thou art God alone. All nations before thee are as nothing, less than nothing and vanity. In thy hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind. The eyes of all wait upon thee, and thou givest them their meat in due season; thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desires of every living thing. Thou art good, and doest good, and thy mercy is to the sons of men. Therefore, O Lord, we, who are but dust and ashes, will take

it upon us to speak unto thee. We are not worthy, O Lord, of the very least of all thy mercies. It is of thy mercy that we are not consumed. We would humble ourselves under thy mighty hand. Make us to know our transgression and sin. Grant us that godly sorrow which worketh repentance not to be repented of. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin. Give us wise and understanding hearts. Increase our faith, and perfect that which is lacking in us, that we may be able to overcome the world. As we have received Christ Jesus, our Lord, so enable us to walk in him, and be rooted and grounded in him. May thy love, O God, be shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost, and may we love one another with a pure heart fervently, so that all may know that we are the disciples of Christ. Lord, give us grace to deny ourselves, and take up our cross daily, that we may keep under our bodies and bring them into subjection. Set a watch, O Lord, before our mouths, and keep the door of our lips, that we offend not in words. Make us wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. In every thing may we give thanks unto thee, O Lord; but especially may we be joyful in thy great salvation. When there was no eye to pity, and no arm to save, even then thou didst say unto us, Live. While we live, therefore, we will praise the Lord, and sing

praises unto our God while we have any being. May all the people that now sit in darkness see this great light, and rejoice in it. O Lord, arise, and have mercy upon Zion, and let the time to favor her come. Let thy word have free course and be glorified in all places; and soon may its knowledge cover the earth, as the waters do the great deep. These, our prayers, we offer up, hoping to be heard, not for our righteousness, but for the righteousness of him in whom thou art well pleased, calling him thy beloved son, in whom is our only hope, and in whose comprehensive words we would further pray for ourselves, and all mankind: Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER IV.

FROM THE SCRIPTURES.—*Morning or Evening.*

O thou King of Kings and Lord of Lords, who dwellest in the light which no man can approach, whom no man hath seen or can see, but who art nevertheless not far from every one of us, vouch-

safe to listen to the supplications of thy poor needy creatures. Whom have we in Heaven but thee, and there is none upon earth that we desire but thee. O Lord, we know not how to pray as we ought; let thy spirit help our infirmities, and intercede within us with groanings not to be uttered. O Lord, thou madest us, and not we ourselves; we are thy people and the sheep of thy pasture. O Lord, the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. We are wise to do evil, but to do good we have no knowledge. Out of our hearts proceed all manner of evil things, and thou art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity. But thou hast not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities, but hath been very gracious to us. O, put thy fear into our hearts, that we may not any more sin against thee. Take away our hearts of stone, and give us hearts of flesh, that we may love thee for all thy goodness to us. Lift up the light of thy countenance upon us, and put gladness into our hearts, far more than when corn and wine aboundeth. Write thy love upon our hearts, and make us to delight to do thy will. Give us grace to walk worthy of the high vocation wherewith we are called, with all lowliness, and meekness, and long suffering, forbearing one another in love. May we abound more and more in love to all men, and, as we have opportu-

nity, do good to all men. Make us to be zealously affected in every good work; and whatever we do, may we do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not to men. May we serve the Lord in joyfulness and gladness of heart all our days, ever going on our way rejoicing. Teach us, O Lord, in whatever state we are in, therewith to be content. And when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, be thou with us, that we may fear no evil: then may we joyfully give thanks unto thee for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

And may all who are now sitting in the region and shadow of death come to the glorious light of thy gospel. Let the sorrowful sighing of the prisoners come before thee; and according to the greatness of thy power, preserve thou those who are appointed to die. Look with compassion on a world that is lying in wickedness. Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion. Build thou the walls of Jerusalem, and let peace be within her walls and prosperity within her palaces. From the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same, let thy name be great among the heathen; and in every place may incense be offered unto thee, and a peace offering. For all these blessings on ourselves and our fellow creatures, we would further pray in the perfect and comprehensive words of him who taught us when we pray to say: Our Father, who art in

heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER V.

FROM THE SCRIPTURES.—*Morning or Evening.*

O great and glorious Jehovah, King eternal, immortal, and invisible, author of our being, creator of all worlds, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and whose kingdom is from generation to generation, to whom power belongeth, and with whom nothing is impossible; we would join the innumerable company of angels, and the spirits of the just made perfect, in adoring and praising thee. Thousand thousands of them minister unto thee, and ten thousand times ten thousands stand before thee and do thy pleasure. It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, to show forth thy loving kindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night. Thy tender mercies are over all thy works. Thou visitest the earth and waterest it. Thou causest the grass to grow for the cattle, and herbs for the use of man, and bread which strengthens man's heart.

Thou crownest the year with thy goodness. All creatures wait upon thee, and thou givest them their meat in due season. By thee kings reign, and princes decree justice. All nations before thee are as nothing, less than nothing, and vanity. When we consider the heavens, the work of thy hands, the moon and stars which thou hast created, well may we exclaim, Lord, what is man that thou shouldest be so mindful of him, or the son of man that thou shouldest set thine heart upon him and magnify him? O blessed Jesus, who thought it not robbery to be equal with God, we would honor thee, even as we honor the Father; for thou art the brightness of the Father's glory, and the express image of his person. Thou art the true God and eternal life; for thou and the Father art one, thou in him and he in thee. No man can come to the Father but by thee; for thou art the way, the truth and the life. Thou dost ever live to make intercession for us at the right hand of God the Father, Worthy, therefore, is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing; for he was slain, and hast redeemed us to God by his blood. Believing in thee, blessed Jesus, we would rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory; for thou wert our Immanuel, God with us on earth. And we would worship and adore thee, also, O Holy

Ghost, the Comforter, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, by whose blessed operation we are convinced of sin, and by whose holy guidance we are led to the Saviour, and enabled to call him Lord, to the glory of God the Father. O do thou who art sent to teach us all things, show us more and more of the plague of our own hearts, and open our eyes that we may see the wondrous things out of the law of God. Make us, by thy power, to abound in hope, and to be filled with comfort in all our tribulations. Strengthen us with might in the inner man, and make our bodies to be even the temple in which thou dost delight to dwell. And may our whole body, soul, and spirit, be sanctified wholly, and preserved blameless until the coming of our Lord. O great Jehovah—Holy—Holy—Holy—Lord God of Hosts—Father, Son and Spirit—fulfil in us all the good pleasure of thy goodness. Be thou with us, and be greater than all who are against us. Let thy grace be sufficient for us. Enable us to resist the Devil, that he may flee us. If a good work be begun in us, perform it, we pray thee, until the day of Christ. And may the grace of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and the love of God our heavenly Father, and the sweet fellowship of the Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier and Comforter, be with us, to redeem, to sanctify, and glorify us, now and for evermore.

Amen. Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER VI.

FROM BISHOP WILSON.—*Morning.*

Accept of our thanks, O thou giver of all good, for having preserved us through another night, and brought us to the light of another day. Continue this thy guardian care to us, O gracious God, until the night of death is past, when we beseech thee to raise us up to everlasting life. We gratefully acknowledge our dependence upon thee for all the necessaries, conveniences, and comforts of this life, and for everlasting happiness hereafter. We give thee thanks for the light of thy gospel, and the help of thy grace, and for the promise thou hast made of pardon and forgiveness through thy Son Jesus Christ, on our sincere repentance and amendment. Give us, we beseech thee, such a sense of these and all thy other mercies, as may make us truly thankful to thee for them. Give us grace, O God, ever to walk as in thy sight, making a conscience

of all our ways, and fearing to offend thee, so that we may never fall into those sins of which we have already repented. Enable us to resist and overcome the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the Devil; to follow the motions of thy good spirit, to be serious and holy in our lives, true and just in our dealings, watchful over our thoughts, words, and actions, diligent in our business, and temperate in all things. Give us grace to improve all the talents committed to our trust; and may no worldly business, no worldly pleasures, divert us from the concerns of the world to come. May thy blessing be upon our person, upon our labors, and upon all that belongs to us, and may we never undertake any work that we dare not beg of thee to prosper. O heavenly Master, bless us, we pray, with good and faithful servants; and grant that we may perform all the duties of Christian rulers; that we may have a tender concern for the welfare, both of their souls and bodies, and be examples to them of sobriety, justice, and piety, so that we may be an household fearing God; and may thy blessing rest upon them and upon all our affairs committed to their trust. And O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for his sake bless our children. Grant them healthful bodies, understanding souls, and sanctified hearts. Keep them from all dangers and sad accidents. Let thy grace preserve them from the

temptations of an evil world, and may we never be wanting in any part of our duty towards them. Be thou, O Father, their guide and portion in this world and in that which is to come. Pour down, also, bountiful Lord, thy blessings upon all our relations, friends, and neighbors. May they all be partakers of thy grace in this world, and inheritors of everlasting glory hereafter. And hear us, gracious God, while we further pray in the name and perfect words of our blessed Lord, for ourselves, our friends, and all mankind: Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER VII.

FROM BISHOP WILSON.—*Evening.*

O Lord and Heavenly Father, we acknowledge thy great goodness to us in sparing us while we deserve punishment, in continuing to us the good things of this life, and setting before us the happiness of a better. In the midst of life we are in death. Grant, O Lord, that this solemn thought may make us careful how we

live, that we may escape the bitter pains of eternal death. O merciful Lord, pardon our offences, correct and amend whatever is amiss in us, that as we grow in age, we may grow in grace, and the nearer we come to our latter end, the better we may be prepared for it. Give us a true knowledge of ourselves, of the corruption of our nature, and the necessity of thy gracious help to save us from ruin. Take from us all ignorance and hardness of heart, and too much carefulness for the things of this life. May the spirit of Christ ever live and rule in us, possessing our souls with a sincere desire of pleasing thee, and a great dread of offending thee. Deliver us, we pray thee, O God, from the sin that does most easily beset us, from the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life, from all unprofitable and sinful thoughts, from lying lips and deceitful tongues, from uncharitable hearts and wavering minds. Let thy love, O God, be shed abroad in our hearts by the power of the Holy Ghost; and grant that it may appear in our whole life and conversation, to thy honor and glory.

Preserve in our souls, O blessed Lord, such a constant and clear sense of our obligations to thee, that, upon the receipt of every favor, we

may immediately turn our eyes to him from whom cometh our salvation. May thy manifold blessings fix such lasting impressions upon our souls, that we may always praise thee joyfully here on earth, until it shall please thee, of thy unbounded mercy, to call us nearer the place of thy heavenly habitation, to praise our Lord and deliverer to all eternity. In like manner, we pray thee, O Lord, to remember all our friends and relations, making them partakers of the same blessings which we ask for ourselves. And we pray for our enemies, if such there are, not for vengeance, but for mercy; that thou wouldst change their hearts by thy grace, or restrain their malice by thy power. Thou hast been all mercy to us, O God; grant that we may be so to all others. Bless, we also pray thee, all whom thy providence hath set over us, whether in church or state; and give us grace to obey them for conscience sake. Look down in pity and forgiveness on the world which thou hast created. Overrule the commotions of the earth. Bring order out of confusion, and light out of darkness. Establish the reign of peace and righteousness upon earth, and let the Saviour's kingdom be set up in every land and every heart. These our prayers we offer up in the

all-prevailing name of our great Redeemer, in whose own blessed words we would pray, as he hath taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER VIII.

FROM BISHOP WILSON.—*Morning.*

Almighty and eternal God, by whose providence we are sustained, we, the work of thy hands, and part of thy care, sensible of thy goodness hitherto vouchsafed us, are here prostrate before thee, to implore thy mercy and protection for the time to come. We confess, O Lord, that our past ingratitude and sin might justly provoke thee to leave us to ourselves. But since thou hast given us some sense of our unworthiness, we do, in all humility, hope and beg that thou wilt give us thy pardon also. And we not only ask the pardon of our sins, but thy grace and powerful assistance, that we may not for the time to come hazard thy favor and pro-

tection by our future wilful transgression. O Lord, leave us not to ourselves; for without thee we can do nothing that is good. To thee we look for grace to know our duty, for willing minds to desire to do it, for strength to perform what thou requirest of us, and that thou wilt mercifully pardon our infirmities, and accept of our poor unworthy services, for Jesus Christ's sake. We put ourselves under thy protection, and beseech thee to give us grace, that with an humble confidence we may depend upon thy watchful providence, thy guidance and thy blessing. Grant that we may ever walk as in thy sight, making a conscience of all our ways, and to the best of our knowledge dealing with others as we ourselves would be dealt with. Give us grace that we may be innocent and harmless in our conversation, well pleased with the prosperity of all around us, and desirous of the good of all people. And, O good God, may we never forget to praise thine infinite goodness for all the blessings we receive at thy hands. Pardon all our former ingratitude, and that we have passed so many days without observing, without admiring and confessing thy wonderful goodness to the most unworthy of all thy servants. Hear us, also, gracious God, while we

raise our hearts in prayer for our fellow creatures. Look down in mercy upon the miserable case of those who are living in sin and after the course of this world. Touch their hearts so powerfully from above, that they may see, ere it is too late, the danger of living without God in the world. In tender mercy remember all sick and dying persons, that they may omit nothing that is necessary to make their peace with thee. Sanctify the miseries of this life to the everlasting benefit of those who suffer; and grant to us all, that, as we have but a short time to live, and an eternal interest depending, we may not squander away one moment in vanity, or in that which will not profit in the day of adversity. These and all thy blessings, which thou knowest better to give than we to ask, vouchsafe to give us for the worthiness of thy son Jesus Christ, in whose most blessed name and words we offer up all our petitions at a throne of grace. Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver from us evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER IX.

FROM BISHOP WILSON.—*Evening.*

Almighty God and most merciful Father, we are here again prostrate before thee to acknowledge thy bounty and goodness to us the day past, to beg thy merciful protection this night, and to praise thy holy name for these and all thy other mercies, bestowed upon us from day to day. We confess, O Lord, that we do not walk worthy of the great benefits which we constantly receive at thy hands, nor make suitable returns for thy vast blessings; and therefore we might justly fear lest thou shouldst put a stop to the current of thy mercies to us. But pardon, we beseech thee, O God, whatever we have this day past offended, in thought, word, or deed, against thee or our neighbor, for Jesus Christ's sake. Look upon us in much compassion, not for any thing in us, but for the love and respect which thou bearest to him in whom we pray thee to be reconciled to us miserable sinners. Take possession, O blessed Jesus, of thy right in our souls, which thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood, and root out all self-righteousness, self-interest, and self-will; and be thou our righteousness, and all in us. O Lord, make us to see the evil and danger of sin, that we

may repent and turn to thee with all our hearts, and bring forth fruits meet for repentance. Give us, O God, such a true sorrow for our sins as will enable us to embrace all the necessary means, how bitter soever, to subdue the evil of our souls. O God, make us truly sensible how different our lives ought to be from the lives of worldly people. Preserve us from a vain conversation, and give us grace never to be afraid or ashamed to speak of thee and thy law. Give us a lively sense of the value of religion, and make it the delight of our hearts to speak of it with great judgment, seriousness, and affection, and at all reasonable times. Give us, O Lord, a mild, a peaceable, and an humble spirit, that, remembering our own infirmities, we may bear with those of others; that, considering our own character, we may think lowly of ourselves, and not be angry when others do so also. Give us, O Lord, a true compassion for the wants and miseries of our fellow creatures, and do thou have compassion on us. Increase, O Lord, the number of penitents, and the joy of heaven, by delivering all sinners from the power of the Devil, and by vouchsafing them the grace of a true conversion. The greatest happiness, O Lord, which we can desire for ourselves, or our

fellow creatures, is what we now humbly beg for—that we may gratefully acknowledge thy great love to us, meditate on thy tender mercies, magnify thy good providence, and by these mighty favors be reduced to an obedience becoming our situation. Give us grace to consider, that by thy merciful goodness we are delivered from a world of dangers, which would *otherwise* overwhelm us. Lord, what is man that thou shouldst be so mindful of him, or the sons of men that thou shouldst so regard them? We are oppressed with the load of thy mercies. Glory be to thee, O God, our Creator. Glory be to thee, O God, our Redeemer. Glory be to thee, O God, the Holy Ghost, our sanctifier, our guide, our comforter. All love, all glory, be to the high and undivided Trinity, whose works are inseparable, and whose dominion endureth, world without end. Amen. Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name: thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER X.

BISHOP WILSON.—*Morning.*

What shall we render unto the Lord for his mercies renewed unto us every morning? We will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay our vows unto the most high? Accept, O Lord, our most hearty thanks for the preservation and refreshment of us during the past night, and for all the blessings of our past lives. Possess our souls, gracious God, with such a sense of thy goodness to us, and of our dependence upon thee for every blessing, that it may be our delight, as it is our duty and interest, to serve thee and obey thee. Give us leave, O God, to mention before thee the death of thy Son, and the infinite blessings we have received thereby. Make us deeply sensible of that love which brought him down from heaven, and how sad our condition must have been to require such a sacrifice. Intercede for us, O blessed Saviour, that we may be truly sensible of the diseases we labor under, and thankfully embrace the means thy goodness hast ordained for our recovery. Obtain for us, O blessed Jesus, the graces of mortification and self-denial, the graces of a true humility, and the fear of God. Preserve us, we pray thee, from spiritual pride, from ascribing any thing we have done or can do to ourselves, and robbing thee of the glory of saving us from eternal ruin. Give

us grace, O God, that we may continue in thy fear all the day long; that we may live and act as having thee the constant witness of all our thoughts, words, and actions; and that it may be the purpose of our souls never to offend thee wilfully. Show us the way that we should walk in, and give us grace to follow the conduct of thy good spirit, that we may do our duty in that state of life in which thy providence has placed us. Preserve us from an idle and useless life. Let us ever remember that the night of death cometh when no man can work, and that now is the time to provide for eternity. Grant, gracious God, that no worldly pleasures, no worldly business, may ever make us lose sight of death, and forget the serious duties of religion. Fill our hearts with a dread of the punishment prepared for impenitent sinners, and also with a sense of those blessings which will be the sure reward of those who love thee and obey thy laws. Give us a tender compassion for the wants and miseries of our fellow creatures. Have pity upon all those unhappy people who still sit in darkness, and want the necessary means of instruction. Send them pastors after thine own heart, full of knowledge, compassion and zeal, who, pitying their sad condition, may instruct them in the ways of truth and eternal life. Bless all those societies which are formed for the extension of the Redeemer's king-

dom upon earth. Increase the number and the graces of those who are zealous for thy glory and the conversion of sinners; may all our friends and relations be among the number of those in whom thou delightest. May our children be thy children, and our servants thine own faithful ones; so that when we shall all appear before thee to receive our final sentence, we may be received together into everlasting habitations. All which we ask in his name who has taught us, when we pray, to say: Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER XI.

BISHOP WILSON.—*Evening.*

O Lord, the creator of the world, we do here in all humility present ourselves before thee, to pay our evening homage, beseeching thee to accept our souls and bodies as living sacrifices to thee, who hast redeemed both. But most unfit are they to be to thee presented, until we have obtained thy grace, and pardon for the many sins by which they

have been defiled. Our whole nature is corrupt, exceeding prone to evil, and averse to good; our understanding is full of ignorance and errors, our will perverse, our passions easy to be excited, and our senses have been the inlets to all impurity. All the faculties of our souls and bodies have been abused. Lord, pity and cleanse, forgive and accept us, for thy mercy's sake, through Jesus Christ. O Lord, we beg that faith in Jesus Christ which can enable us to do all things; that we may be able to discover, to avoid, to resist, and root out whatever is evil in us. O most powerful advocate, we put our cause into thy hands; let thy blood and merits plead for us, and by thy mighty intercession obtain for us a discharge from all our sins. It was not in ourselves, O Lord, to begin the work of conversion; finish, we pray thee, what thou hast begun in us. May we close with thy grace, and persevere unto our life's end. Lord, the frailty of man without thee cannot but fall; in all our temptations, therefore, we beseech thee to succor us, that sin may never have the dominion over us. Vouchsafe us, gracious God, the graces of mortification and self-denial, that our affections and flesh being subdued unto the spirit, and our hearts and members being mortified from all worldly lusts, we may always obey thy blessed will, through Jesus Christ. Give us, O Lord, hearts full of meekness and charity,

that we may willingly forget the evil we have received, and be always disposed to do good to others. We pray for those who never pray for themselves; that thou wouldst give unto them a true sense of their unhappy state, and grace and strength to break their bonds. May all who sincerely seek the truth be led into it by thy Holy Spirit; and to all such as are destitute of necessary instruction, vouchsafe a greater share of thy grace. Bless the pious endeavors of all those who strive to propagate the gospel of Christ, and may its divine truths be received throughout all the world. And now, O God, we ascribe it, with all grateful acknowledgments, to thy goodness, that we have this day been preserved from all evil and sad calamities, to which for our own sins we are justly liable, and that thou hast so bountifully supplied all our wants. Add this to the rest of thy favors, that we may never forget, but always delight to praise thy holy name for all the blessings we every day receive at thy hands. O God, possess our souls with such a deep sense of the many obligations we owe to thee, and especially of that great love which moved thee to give thy Son Jesus Christ to die for us, that religion may be the business of our life, our greatest pleasure to serve thee, and our highest delight to attain everlasting happiness. Thou needest not, O God, our servicebut; we beseech thee to accept of

our humble desire through Jesus Christ. Into thy hands we commend, this night, both our souls and bodies, which have by thee been preserved in safety all this day. And grant, O Lord and Judge of all mankind, that we may so pass all the days and nights of our lives in thy fear and to thy glory, that when the great day shall come, and no night follow, we may, by the merits of Christ, receive that crown of glory which thou hast promised to them that love thee. All which we humbly ask in the name of our blessed Saviour; in whose most perfect words we pray to be heard for ourselves and all mankind.—Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER XII.

BISHOP WILSON.—*Morning.*

O most holy, blessed, and glorious Majesty of heaven and earth. Before thee, the author of our being, we humbly prostrate ourselves this morning. May thy good spirit assist us in our duty; may it fix our attention, excite our affections, and inflame

our devotions, that we may attend upon the Lord with pleasure and without distraction. And because, O Lord, we are not worthy to be heard for our own sake, we set before thee the merits of thy Son, who is the propitiation for our sins. For his righteousness, pardon the offences of us thy servants, and grant us those things by thy mercy which by the strict rule of justice are not due to us. Behold, O Lord, prostrate before thee, creatures liable every moment to death, and begging for Jesus's sake, that faith and repentance to which thou hast promised mercy and pardon. Discover to us, O thou searcher of hearts, the charge that is against us, that we may know, and confess, and bewail, and abhor, and forsake all the evils we are guilty of. Lord be merciful unto us, for we have sinned in the midst of light, and in contempt of the grace we have received. O Lord, never abandon us to the opposition we may make at any time to thy spirit. Leave us not to ourselves, and take not thy holy spirit from us. Our only support is that our sins have not put us beyond the reach of that mercy which is infinite. O divine repairer of our corrupt nature, may thy all powerful grace make us as perfect as thou hast commanded us to be. Heal all the vicious inclinations of our souls, and perfect in us an hearty love of holiness, that by thy grace we may perform all the engagements that are upon us.

Give us such a true sorrow for our sins as will enable us to embrace all the necessary means, how bitter soever, for rooting sin out of our souls. Give us grace, O God, that we may continue in thy fear all the day long, and that we may live and act as having thee the constant witness of all our thoughts, words, and actions. May thy restraining grace preserve us from the temptations of an evil world, from the frailty and corruption of our own nature, and from the evil principles and practices of the age we live in. We bless thee, O God, for that grace which has so often prevented us, and to which we owe all the good thoughts that are in our hearts, all the motions of our souls to virtue and piety, and all the effects of them, in the whole course of our lives. We thank thee, heavenly Father, for all the blessings we have undeservedly received at thy hands, and particularly that thou hast kept us, the night past, from all perils of body and soul. Continue to us, O God, the blessings we already enjoy; make every condition of life, every blessing we receive, every thing which befalleth us, a means of bringing us nearer to thee, and to that happiness which thou hast prepared for them that love thee. Let thy blessing rest upon us, and upon all for whom we should pray. In tender mercy, remember all sick and dying persons, that they may omit nothing *that is* necessary to make their peace with thee.

Give to all sinners a true sense of their sins, and true repentance for them, that they may be done away by thy mercy, and their pardon sealed in heaven, before they go hence to be no more seen. And grant unto us all that desire and earnest longing which we ought to have for the happy moment which is to release us from banishment, and translate us to a better world. O that our lot and fortune may be among the saints of God. All our hope, and all our prayer, is in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose blessed words we would further pray: Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER XIII.

BISHOP WILSON.—*Evening.*

O most gracious and merciful Father, we give thee thanks that it has pleased thee to add another day to the years of our lives, and that none of thy judgments, to which for our sins we are justly liable, have fallen upon us. Blessed be thy goodness that our sins and ingratitude have not prevented

thee from bringing us safely to the evening of this day. O God, infinite in mercy, pardon our sins of the day past, whether in thought, word, or deed, which we have committed through the fraud or malice of the Devil, or through our own weakness or frailty; and grant that they may never rise up in judgment against us. Prepare us, we beseech thee, for a continuance of thy favors, by giving us the grace of a true repentance, and a thorough amendment of life. But, O God, the frailty of man, without thee, cannot but fall; in all temptations, therefore, we beseech thee to succor us, that no sin may ever get the dominion over us. Give us a salutary dread of the corruption of our hearts; make us truly sensible of the weakness and sinfulness of our whole nature, and show us the absolute need we have of thy gracious help, that we may pray for it continually. May we ever make a right use of the time which thy goodness shall yet vouchsafe us, and not dare to abuse thy patience and long-suffering. May the thoughts of death mortify in us all pride and covetousness, and a love for this world; and may our firm belief in a judgment to come make us careful to please thee, our Lord and Judge, that we may find mercy at that day. Grant us grace so to follow thy saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable *joys which* thou hast prepared for them that un-

feignedly love thee. O our Saviour, how long have we professed to follow thee, without following the blessed steps of thy most holy life, thy patience and humility, thy great disregard for the world, and all its idols. O Lord, obtain for us the spirit of mortification and self-denial, that we may follow thee, as we hope to live with thee, to all eternity. O Almighty God, who alone canst do it, effectually convince us of the vanity of all that is desirable in this life, that we may not, like unbelievers, look for our happiness here. Grant that we may not be of the number of those who dread thy coming, who cannot, but with regret, submit to the necessity of dying, and who have neglected to prepare for death till the last hour. O gracious God, look on the miserable case of those who are living in sin, and after the course of this world. Give to them a true sense of their unhappy state, and grace and strength to break the bonds of sin asunder. O Lord Jesus, conduct all blind wandering sinners in the way of life everlasting. O Father, all-mighty and most merciful, let thy loving kindness be upon all whom thou hast made. And grant that we, also, may be kindly affectioned one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as thou, O Lord, for Christ's sake, hast forgiven us. Grant that we may always lie down to sleep in the same charitable and forgiving temper in which we desire

and hope to die. And now, O God all-powerful, take us, this night, under thy protection, preserve us from the powers of darkness, and the dangers of the night, and, by thy grace and providence, bring us, at last, through all the trials and temptations of this world, to a blessed end, that we may die in peace, and rest in hope, and rise in glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen. Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER XIV.

BISHOP WILSON. LORD'S PRAYER PARAPHRAZED. *Morning.*

Our Father, who art in heaven, we bless thee, that we, and all others, are permitted to call thee "Our Father;" and we pray that we may all live as becomes thy children; that we may not sin, knowing that we are accounted thine.

Hallowed be thy name. Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor, for thou hast cre-

ated all things, and all thy works praise thee. Fill our hearts, O Lord, with a zeal for thy glory, that we may do thee honor by leading holy lives, and by paying a great regard to every thing that belongs to thee. And may others, seeing our good works, glorify our Father in heaven.

Thy kingdom come. Enlarge thy kingdom, O Lord, and deliver the world from the dominion and tyranny of Satan, that the kingdoms of the earth may become the kingdoms of Jesus Christ. Bless the good endeavors of those who strive to propagate the gospel of Christ, and prepare the hearts of all men to receive it.

Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Dispose us, and all thy children, to submit cheerfully to whatever thy good providence shall order for us. Subdue in us whatever is contrary to thy holy will, that, through thy grace, we may become perfect as our heavenly pattern is.

Give us this day our daily bread. Thou, O Father, knowest what we stand in need of; give us those things which thou seest proper for us. May we never use any unlawful means of getting our daily bread. Do thou dispose our hearts to impart to such as are in want of what thou mayest give us more than our daily bread.

But, especially, do thou give us all the bread which nourisheth to eternal life.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Forgive us, O Father, those sins which separate us from thee. Forgive us every day of our lives, for every day do we stand in need of thy pardon. Thou art good and merciful in forgiving us; grant that we may be so to all others, remembering our infirmities.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Leave us not, O Lord, to the power and malice of the evil one, the Devil, to deal with us as he pleaseth; nor to ourselves and our own corrupt hearts and lusts; lest we rashly run into temptation. Suffer us not to be surprised into them, nor tempted beyond what we are able to bear. Give us grace to resist them, and to watch and pray, daily, that we enter not into temptation.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. The whole creation is thine, and under thy government. Thine is the power to do whatever we pray for. Thou canst set up thy kingdom in all the world. Thou canst cause thy will to be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Thou canst give us all things that are needful for our souls and bodies. Thou, and thou alone, canst forgive our sins, and dispose our hearts

to forgive one another. Thou canst secure us in the day of temptation, and deliver us from the power of the Devil. To thee, then, to thee alone, be the glory, through all eternity. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, etc.

PRAYER XV.

BISHOP WILSON. LORD'S PRAYER PARAPHRASED. *Evening.*

Our Father, who art in heaven. O, what manner of love is this, that we should be called the sons of God? Look upon us, O Father, as poor, weak, ignorant, and helpless children. Pity us as a father pitieth his own children, and give us grace to show, by our lives, that thou art our father.

Hallowed be thy name. May the end of all our designs and actions be thy glory, O God. But, ah, how little have we done to promote thy glory. God, be merciful to us, and glorify thine own name, by saving such miserable sinners as we are, and ever have been, since we were born.

Thy kingdom come. Hasten the time which thy spirit hath foretold, when all nations whom thou hast made shall worship and glorify thee; and do thou, O King of saints, establish thy kingdom of grace in our hearts, that we may be thy subjects out of choice, and ever yield thee a willing obedience.

Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven. As thy angels above do perfectly perform thy will, so may we below, as far as the frailty of our nature will allow. Grant that we may ever study to know thy will, that we may know how to please thee.

Give us, this day, our daily bread. Daily do we have recourse unto thee; for on thee do we depend, for life, and breath, and all things. May we be content and thankful for our present condition, to which, as sinners, we have no right. O, may we seek the kingdom of heaven, and its righteousness, and trust in thee, that all other things may be added unto us.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. May we remember thy goodness, thy patience, thy mercy towards us, and the multitude of our offences against thee, that we may, from our hearts, forgive those who have offended us. But, O God, even the power to perform this condition must be from thy grace. Enable us, then, freely, from our hearts, to forgive others, as we hope to be forgiven of thee.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Thou, O Father, knowest our infirmities, and the power of our enemies; be not wanting to us in the hour of temptation. Let nothing provoke thee to leave us to ourselves. De-

liver us from the wiles and artifices of Satan. Deliver us from the evil of sin in this world, and from the bitter pains of eternal death in that which is to come.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. To thee, therefore, and to thee alone, do we apply for help. Into thy hands do we now commit ourselves. Do for us far more than we are able to ask or think, and all the praise shall be thine, for ever and ever. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, etc.

PRAYER XVI.

BISHOP WILSON.—*Sabbath Morning.*

O Lord, who hast consecrated this day to thy service, give us grace so to observe it, that it may be the beginning of an happy week to us, and that none of thy judgments may befall us for profaning it. Fix in our hearts this great truth, that here we have no abiding place, that we may seriously and timely provide for another life. Grant that this great concern may make us very desirous to learn our duty, and to do what thou requirest of us. We bless thee, O God, that we have churches to go to, that we have such times set apart for the more public worship of our Creator, and that we have pastors to teach us. May we desire and re-

joice at the return of this day, and serve thee faithfully on it, that so we may be prepared for an everlasting Sabbath with the saints in heaven. May we never spend thy holy day in vanity and idleness, or in a customary attendance on thy house only. O God, the fountain of wisdom, we humbly beseech thee to enlighten our minds, that we may come to the knowledge of thee and thy goodness in Christ Jesus. Give us a full persuasion of all those great truths which thou hast revealed to us in thy holy word. Give us a love to thy scriptures, a true understanding of them, and grace to order our lives according to them. Let the gracious promises of thy word quicken our obedience, and its dreadful threatenings and judgments upon sinners fright us from sin, and oblige us to a speedy repentance. Grant that we may never content ourselves with the mere shadows of piety, but always endeavor after that holiness without which no man can see the Lord. Increase the number and the graces of such as are zealous for thy glory, and the conversion of sinners. Impart to them the true way of instruction, and may thy blessing go along with their pious endeavors. Especially do we pray thee to bless him whom thou hast appointed to labor for our souls. Give him a true love for our souls. May he labor effectually among us; and may nothing be wanting

on our part to crown his efforts with success. We pray thee, also, to preserve thine universal Church in the midst of the dangers that surround it; purge it from all its corruptions, and heal its divisions, that all Christian people may unite and love, as becomes the disciples of Christ. O thou, who art the Maker and Redeemer of all, have mercy on all whom thou hast made and redeemed; and grant that none may make themselves incapable of that happiness which Jesus Christ hath purchased with his most precious blood. Have pity on all those unhappy people who still sit in darkness, and want the necessary means of instruction. Send them pastors after thine own heart, full of knowledge, compassion, and zeal, who pitying their sad condition, may instruct them in the ways of truth, and of eternal life. We pray thee for all public authorities, whether in Church or State, that they may govern with truth, justice, and piety; and that those whose duty it is to obey, may do it for conscience sake, all acting as in the sight of God. Be with thy ministers every where this day. Open thou their lips, that their mouths may show forth thy praise. May thy word come with power to every heart, and all men feel, this day, that it is good to draw near to thee. Hear us in these our prayers, for the sake of our all-mighty advocate, who sitteth at thy right hand to intercede for

us, and to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be glory everlasting. Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the *kingdom*, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER XVII.

BISHOP WILSON.—*Sabbath Evening.*

Almighty and most merciful Father, on the evening of thy blessed Sabbath we kneel before thee in humble supplication, to confess our unworthiness, to implore thy forgiveness, and ask a gracious continuance of thy undeserved favors. O God, we lament before thee that our thoughts, and prayers, and words have not been so pure and heavenly as thou requirest, and as is our bounden duty on so holy a day. Nevertheless, O God, withhold not thy favors; pardon the sins of our holy things, and yet crown this day's services with thy blessing. We would endeavor, even now, before we lay our bodies to rest, to lift up our hearts in acceptable prayer and praise. We would adore and bless thee for setting apart this holy day to keep up the

remembrance of thee and of our creation and redemption. We thank thee for thy holy word, and that thou hast not in the great affair of eternity left us to the uncertainty of our own reason. We bless thee for having appointed ministers of religion to explain the truth of the gospel, to encourage and exhort us to holiness. We adore thee for the gift of thy spirit, and all its holy inspiration upon our souls. Above all, we laud and magnify thy glorious name for the gift of thy son Jesus Christ, and all his precious benefits to man. Make us truly sensible of that great love which brought him down from heaven, and how sad our condition must have been to require such a sacrifice. Grant, O Lord, that we may so perfectly, and without all doubt, believe in thy son Jesus Christ, that our faith in thy sight may never be reproved. May we, O blessed Saviour, love the truths of thy word, make the gospel our delight, and continue in the practice of them to our live's end. Give us grace to read thy holy word with a reverence becoming the gracious manifestation of thy holy will to men, humbly submitting our understanding and will to thine. Open our eyes, O Lord, that we may see that thy law is holy, just, and good, and give us grace to keep it with our whole heart. Bless to us the means of grace which thou hast appointed, and especially the instructions of this day, that they

may sink deep into our hearts, and bring forth in us the fruits of good living, to the praise and glory of thy holy name. Remember, gracious God, for good, all who are over us in the Lord, who watch for our souls as those who must give an account, that they do it with joy, and not with grief. We commend unto thy tender compassion, all that are in error, and sincerely seek the truth; all such as are destitute of necessary means and instructions; all that are engaged in sinful courses, that they may have grace and strength to break their bonds; all that labor under trials and afflictions; all sick and dying persons, that they may omit nothing that is necessary to make their peace with thee before they depart hence; we pray, also, for such as never pray for themselves, that they may see, before it is too late, the danger of living without God in the world. Vouchsafe to us, also, an interest in the prayers of the faithful which have been offered up this day throughout the world. May the spiritual advantages of this holy day be the means of strengthening us for the duties and fortifying us against the temptation of the week upon which we are now entering. Grant us grace, O God, whatever we do, every day of our lives, to do it to thy glory; and thus may we so pass through things temporal as finally not to lose the things that are eternal. Grant these and all other blessings for the alone

merits of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen. Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER XVIII.

ABRIDGED FROM THE LITANY.—*Morning or Evening.*

O God, the Father of Heaven; have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O God, the Son, Redeemer of the world; have mercy upon us miserable sinners. O God, the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three persons and one God, have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers; neither take thou vengeance of our sins; spare us, good Lord; spare thy people whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us for ever. From all evil and mischief, from sin, from the

crafts and assaults of the Devil, from thy wrath, and from everlasting damnation; from all blindness of heart, from pride, vain glory, and hypocrisy, from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness; from all inordinate and sinful affections, and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh and the Devil; Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of thy holy incarnation; by thy holy nativity and circumcision; by thy baptism, fasting, and temptation; by thine agony and bloody sweat; by thy cross and passion; by thy precious death and burial; by thy glorious resurrection and ascension, and by the coming of the Holy Ghost; Good Lord, deliver us.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, Lord God, and that it may please thee to give us an heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to walk after thy commandments; that it may please thee to give to all thy people increase of grace, to hear meekly thy word, and to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the spirit; that it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred and are deceived; that it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand, to comfort and help the weak-hearted, to raise up those who fall, and finally to beat down Satan under our feet; that it may please thee to succor, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; that

it may please thee to have mercy upon all men; to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts; that it may please thee to give us true repentance, to forgive us all our sins, negligences and ignorances, and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, to amend our lives according to thy holy word.

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time, with one accord, to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy name, thou wilt grant their requests; fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, etc.

PRAYER XIX.

SELECTED FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.

Sabbath Morning.

O eternal God, mighty in power, and of majesty incomprehensible, whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain, much less the walls of temples made with hands, and who yet hast been graciously pleased to promise thine especial presence, wherever two or three of thy faithful servants shall assemble in thy name to offer up their praises

and supplications unto thee; vouchsafe to be present with us at this time, and to prepare us, with all humility and readiness of heart, to wait upon thee in thy house of prayer, on this thine own hallowed day. Blessed be thy name, O Lord God, for that it hath pleased thee to have thy habitation among the sons of men, and to dwell in the midst of the assembly of the saints *upon earth.* O most glorious God, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer unto thee any thing belonging unto us; yet we beseech thee, in thy great goodness, graciously to accept our humble endeavors to worship thee this day. Give us grace to prepare our hearts to serve thee with reverence and godly fear; affect us with an awful apprehension of thy divine majesty, and a deep sense of our own unworthiness; that so approaching thy sanctuary with lowliness and devotion, and coming before thee with clean thoughts, and pure hearts, with bodies undefiled, and minds sanctified, we may, through the merits of our great Redeemer, offer thee an acceptable service.

Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve, pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we

are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord.

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning; grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, by patience and comfort of thy holy word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at thy first coming did send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee; grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world, we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight.

Most gracious God, the giver of all good and perfect gifts, who, of thy wise providence, hast appointed divers orders in thy Church; give thy grace, we beseech thee, to thy servant unto whom the charge of this congregation is committed; and so replenish him with the truth of thy doctrine, and endue him with innocency of life, that he may faithfully serve before thee, to the glory of thy great name, and the benefit of thy holy Church, through Jesus Christ our only Mediator and Redeemer.

O God, Holy Ghost, sanctifier of the faithful, visit, we pray thee, this congregation with thy love and favor; enlighten our minds more and more with the light of the everlasting gospel; graft in our hearts the love of the truth; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and of thy great mercy keep us in the same, O blessed Spirit, whom, with the Father and the Son, together, we worship and glorify as one God, world without end. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, etc.

PRAYER XX.

FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.—*Sabbath Evening.*

Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in thy son's name, we beseech thee mercifully to incline thine ears unto us who have this day made our prayers and supplications unto thee; and grant that those things which we have faithfully asked, according to thy will, may be effectually obtained. Grant that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through thy grace, be grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the praise and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ. O Lord, raise up, we pray thee, thy power, and come among

us, and with great might succour us, that, whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us. Almighty God, we beseech thee to behold this thy family, for which our Lord Jesus was contented to be betrayed and given up into the hands of wicked men. Keep thine household in continual godliness, that, through thy protection, it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve thee in good works, to the glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ.

O merciful God, who has made all men, and hatest nothing that thou hast made, have mercy upon all Jews, Turks, infidels, and heretics; take from them all ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt of thy word; and so bring them home, blessed Lord, to thy flock, that they may be saved among the remnant of the true Israelites, and be made one fold under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Most merciful Father, we beseech thee to send upon all thy ministers thy heavenly blessing; that they may be clothed with righteousness, and that thy

word spoken by their mouths may have such success that it may never be spoken in vain. Especially do thou bless the ministry and service of him who labors for our souls. May the words of his mouth, and the meditations of his heart, be always acceptable in thy sight. Fill his memory with the words of thy law. Enlighten his mind with the illumination of the Holy Ghost; and may all the wishes and desires of his heart centre in what thou commandest. Grant that he may faithfully administer thy holy sacraments, and, by his life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively word. Be ever with him in the performance of his duty; in prayer, to quicken his devotions; in praises, to heighten his love and gratitude; and in preaching, to give a readiness of thought and expression suitable to the clearness and excellency of thy holy word And O Almighty God, who hast built thy Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner-stone; grant that by the operation of the Holy Ghost, all Christians may be so joined together in unity of spirit, and in the bond of peace, that they may be an holy temple acceptable to thee. And especially, to the congregation with which

we are wont to assemble, give the abundance of thy grace, that with one heart they may desire the prosperity of thy holy apostolic Church, and with one mouth may profess the faith once delivered to the saints. Defend them from the sins of heresy and schism; let not the foot of pride come nigh to hurt them, nor the hand of the ungodly to cast them down. And grant that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by thy governance, that thy Church may joyfully serve thee here on earth in all godly quietness; that so they may walk in the ways of truth and peace, and at last be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting, through thy merits, O blessed Jesus, thou gracious bishop and shepherd of our souls, who art with the Father and the Holy Ghost one God, world without end. Amen.

PRAYER XXI.

FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.

Morning or Evening.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, who knowest our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking: we beseech thee to have compassion upon our infirmities, and those things

which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us for the worthiness of thy son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves; keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may hurt the soul, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent; create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O God, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that, by reason of the frailty of our nature, we cannot always stand upright; grant to us such strength and protection as may

support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Grant, O Lord, unto all those who are admitted unto Christ's religion, that they may avoid those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; may thy grace always prevent and follow them, and make them continually to be given to all good works. Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by thee be plenteously rewarded, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; and because the frailty of man, without thee cannot but fall, keep us ever by thy help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation.

O God, the protector of all who trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, increase and multiply upon us thy mercy; that thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal.

O God, who hast prepared for those that love

thee, such good things as pass man's understanding; pour into our hearts such love towards thee, that we, loving thee above all things, may obtain thy promises which exceed all that we can desire; grant to us, we, beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right; that we who cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in thy Son's name; we beseech thee mercifully to incline thine ears to us who have now made our prayers and supplications unto thee; and grant that those things which we have faithfully asked according to thy will, may effectually be obtained; to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of thy glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be glory everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER XXII.

FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.

Morning or Evening.

Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve; pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience

is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord.

O God, who declarest thy almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity, mercifully grant unto us such a measure of thy grace, that we, running the way of thy commandments, may obtain thy gracious promises, and be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; grant unto thy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, who, through thine only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life, we humbly beseech thee that, as by thy special grace preventing us, thou dost put into our minds good desires, so, by thy continual help, we may bring the same to good effect, through Jesus Christ.

O Lord, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth; send thy Holy

Ghost, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and all virtues; without which, whoever liveth is counted dead before thee. Grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake.

O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people that call upon thee; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also, may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same, through Jesus Christ.

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only begotten Son Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end.

O everlasting God, who hast ordained and constituted the services of men and angels in a wonderful order; mercifully grant that as thy holy angels always do thee service in heaven; so, by thy appointment, they may succour and defend us on earth, through Jesus Christ.

O Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord; grant us grace so to follow thy blessed saints in all virtu-

ous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys which thou hast prepared for those who unfeignedly love thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray, and in whose words we beg to be further heard. Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER XXIII.

FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.—*Morning.*

Almighty and everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being: we, thy needy creatures, render thee our humble praises, for thy preservation of us from the beginning of our lives to this day, and especially for having delivered us from the dangers of the past night. To thy watchful providence we owe it, (that no disturbance hath come nigh us or our dwelling; but, that we are brought in safety to the beginning of this day.) For these thy mercies, we bless and magnify thy glorious name; humbly beseeching thee to accept this our morning sacrifice of praise and thanksgiv-

ing; for his sake who lay down in the grave, and rose again for us, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

And, since it is of thy mercy, O gracious Father, that another day is added to our lives; we here dedicate both our souls and our bodies to thee and thy service, in a sober, righteous, and godly life; in which resolution, do thou, O merciful God, confirm and strengthen us; that, as we grow in age, we may grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

But, O God, who knowest the weakness and corruption of our nature, and the manifold temptations which we daily meet with; we humbly beseech thee to have compassion on our infirmities, and to give us the constant assistance of thy Holy Spirit; that we may be effectually restrained from sin, and excited to our duty. Imprint upon our hearts such a dread of thy judgments, and such a grateful sense of thy goodness to us, as may make us both afraid and ashamed to offend thee. And, above all, keep in our minds a lively remembrance of that great day, in which we must give a strict account of our thoughts, words, and actions; and according to the works done in the body, be eternally rewarded or punished, by him whom thou hast appointed the Judge of quick and dead, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In particular, we implore thy grace and protection for the ensuing day. Keep us temperate in our meats and drinks, and diligent in our several callings. Grant us patience under any afflictions thou shalt see fit to lay on us, and minds always contented with our present condition. Give us grace to be just and upright in all our dealings; quiet and peaceable; full of compassion; and ready to do good to all men, according to our abilities and opportunities. Direct us in all our ways, (and prosper the works of our hands in the business of our several stations.) Defend us from all dangers and adversities; and be graciously pleased to take us, and all things belonging to us, under thy fatherly care and protection. These things, and whatever else thou shalt see necessary and convenient to us, we humbly beg, through the merits and mediation of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

PRAYER XXIV.

FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.—*Evening.*

Most merciful God, who art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, and hast promised forgiveness to all those who confess and forsake their sins; we come before thee in an humble sense of our own unworthiness, acknowledging our manifold transgressions of thy righteous laws. But, O gracious Father, who desirest not the death of a sinner, look upon us, we beseech thee, in mercy, and forgive us all our transgressions. Make us deeply sensible of the great evil of them; and work in us an hearty contrition; that we may obtain forgiveness at thy hands, who art ever ready to receive humble and penitent sinners; for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, our only Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.

And lest, through our own frailty, or the temptations which encompass us, we be drawn again into sin, vouchsafe us, we beseech thee, the direction and assistance of thy Holy Spirit. Reform whatever is amiss in the temper and disposition of our souls; that no unclean thoughts, unlawful designs,

or inordinate desires, may rest there. Purge our hearts from envy, hatred, and malice, that we may never suffer the sun to go down upon our wrath; but may always go to our rest in peace, charity, and good-will, with a conscience void of offence towards thee and towards men: that so we may be preserved pure and blameless, unto the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

And accept, O Lord, our intercessions for all mankind. Let the light of thy Gospel shine upon all nations; and may as many as have received it, live as becomes it. Be gracious unto thy Church; and grant that every member of the same, in his vocation and ministry, may serve thee faithfully. Bless all in authority over us; and so rule their hearts and strengthen their hands, that they may punish wickedness and vice, and maintain thy true religion and virtue. Send down thy blessings, temporal and spiritual, upon all our relations, friends, and neighbors. Reward all who have done us good, and pardon all those who have done or wish us evil, and give them repentance and better minds. Be merciful to all who are in any trouble; and do thou, the God of pity, administer to them according to their several necessities, for his sake who went about doing good, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

To our prayers, O Lord, we join our unfeigned thanks for all thy mercies; for our being, our reason, and all other endowments and faculties of soul and body; for our health, friends, food, and raiment, and all the other comforts and conveniences of life. Above all, we adore thy mercy in sending thy only Son into the world to redeem us from sin and eternal death, and in giving us the knowledge and sense of our duty towards thee. We bless thee for thy patience with us, notwithstanding our many and great provocations; for all the directions, assistances, and comforts of thy Holy Spirit; for thy continual care and watchful providence over us through the whole course of our lives; and particularly for the mercies and benefits of the past day: Beseeching thee to continue these thy blessings to us; and to give us grace to show our thankfulness in a sincere obedience to his laws, through whose merits and intercession we received them all, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

In particular, we beseech thee to continue thy gracious protection to us this night. Defend us from all dangers and mischiefs, and from the fear of them; that we may enjoy such refreshing sleep, as may fit us for the duties of the following day. Make us ever mindful of the time when we shall

lie down in the dust; and grant us grace always to live in such a state, that we may never be afraid to die: So that living and dying we may be thine, through the merits and satisfaction of thy Son Christ Jesus, in whose name we offer up these our imperfect prayers. Amen. Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

PRAYER XXV.

FROM THE COMMUNION SERVICE.

Morning or Evening.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit; that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men; we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, or deed, against thy divine majesty; provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us; the burthen of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father, for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake; forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O Lord, the only begotten Son Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest on the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation,

and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; and not only for the precious death and merits of thy Son Jesus Christ, but for the sending to us of the Holy Ghost the comforter, who art one with thee in thy eternal godhead; therefore, with angels and arch-angels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee, and saying, holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts; heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And O almighty and everlasting God, who has taught us to make prayers and supplications for all men, we humbly beseech thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy name may agree in the truth of thy holy word, and live in unity and godly love. We beseech thee, also, so to dispose the hearts of all Christian rulers, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of

wickedness and vice, and the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue. Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy sacraments. And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, that with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. And we humbly beseech thee, O Lord, of thy goodness, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory *life*, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. And we also bless thy holy name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; besecching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. And may the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be amongst us, and remain with us evermore. Amen.

PRAYER XXVI.

FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.

Morning or Evening.

O God, whose mercy is everlasting, and whose power is infinite, look down with pity and compassion on thy poor creatures, who come to thee begging for mercy in the name of thy Son Jesus Christ.

O Lord, in the midst of life we are in death, of whom shall we seek for succour but from thee, who for our sins art justly displeased. Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears to our prayers; but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour, thou most worthy Judge eternal, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death. Thy property is always to have mercy; to thee only it appertaineth to forgive sins; spare us, therefore, good Lord; spare thy people whom thou hast redeemed, and enter not into judgment with us. Stir up in us such sorrow for sin and such fervent love to thee, that among the praises which thy saints and angels shall sing to the honor of thy mercy through eternal ages, it may be to thy unspeakable glory, that thou hast redeemed us who are vile earth and miserable sinners.

O God, make us to know and feel that there is none other name under heaven given to man in

whom and through whom we may receive health and salvation, but only the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Grant us so perfectly, and without all doubt, to believe in thy Son Jesus Christ, that our faith in thy sight may never be reproved. And O God who didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit, grant us by the same spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort. Let thy fatherly hand we beseech, thee, ever be over us. Let thy Holy Spirit ever be with us, and so lead us in the knowledge and obedience of thy word, that in the end, we may obtain everlasting life through Jesus Christ. Grant O Lord, that we may both perceive and know what things we ought to do, and have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same. Grant that our hearts and all our members may be mortified from all worldly and carnal lusts, so that we may obey thy blessed will. Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities that happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and haunt the soul. Give us grace to withstand the temptation of the world, the flesh, and the Devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow thee, the

only God. And O God since all our doings without charity are nothing worth; send thy Holy Ghost, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and all virtues; without which, whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee. Receive our supplications and prayers for all estates of men in thy Church, that every member of the same in his vocation and ministry, may truly and goodly serve thee. Keep thy household, the Church in continual godliness; that through thy protection, it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given toserve thee in good works, to the glory of thy name. Save thy ministers from all error, ignorance, pride, and prejudice, and so direct, sanctify, and govern them by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, that the comfortable gospel of Christ may be truly preached, truly received, and truly followed in all places to the breaking down the kingdom of sin, Satan and death, until the whole of thy dispersed sheep, being gathered into one fold, shall become partakers of everlasting life, through the merits and death of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in thy Son's name; we beseech thee mercifully to incline thine ears to us, who have now made our prayers and supplications unto thee; and grant that those things which we

have faithfully asked according to thy will, may effectually be obtained to the relief of our necessity and the setting forth of thy glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be glory everlasting.

PRAYER XXVII.

A THANKSGIVING, FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.

Morning.

What shall we render unto the Lord for his mercies renewed unto us every morning? We will *offer* the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay our vows unto the Most High. It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most Highest; to tell of thy loving kindness early in the morning, and of thy truth in the *night* season. For thou hast made us glad through thy works, and we will rejoice in giving praise for the operation of thy hands. We would serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song. We would go into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and speak good of his name. We would sing unto the Lord a new song; for he hath done marvellous things. Let the people praise thee, O God! yea, let all the people praise thee. Show yourselves joyful unto the Lord, all ye *lands;* sing, rejoice, and give thanks. Let the

floods clap their hands, and let the hills be joyful together before the Lord. O, praise the Lord, ye Angels of his. ye that excel in strength. O, praise the Lord, all ye his hosts, ye servants of his that do his pleasure. O, speak good of the Lord, all ye works of his, in all places of his dominion. Praise thou the Lord, O. our souls.

We do praise thee, O Lord; we do acknowledge thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting. To thee all Angels cry aloud; the heavens and all the powers therein. To thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry; holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth. Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory. The glorious company of the Apostles praise thee. The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise thee. The noble army of martyrs praise thee. The holy Church throughout the world doth acknowledge thee. The father of an infinite majesty. Thine adorable, true, and only Son. Also, the Holy Ghost, the Comforter. Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ. Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father. When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man, thou didst humble thyself to be born of a Virgin. When thou didst overcome the sharpness of death, thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Thou sit-

test at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father. We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge. We therefore pray thee, help thy servants whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood. Make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting. O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine heritage. Govern them, and lift them up for ever. Day by day we magnify thee, and we worship thy name ever, world without end. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin. O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us. Let thy mercy be upon us, as our trust is in thee. O Lord, in thee have we trusted, let us never be confounded. O that men would, therefore, praise the Lord for his goodness, and declare the wonders that he doeth for the children of men. It is indeed, very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should, at all times and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty everlasting God. Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name; evermore praising thee, and saying, holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory: glory be to thee, O Lord, Most High. Amen.

PRAYER XXVIII.

FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.

Morning or Evening.

O God, who declarest thy almighty power chiefly in showing mercy, hear us, for thy mercy is great, and after the multitude of thy mercies, look upon us through the merits and mediation of thy blessed Son Jesus Christ. O God, thou hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all that are truly penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness, through Jesus Christ. O God, for as much as without thee we are not able to please thee, mercifully grant that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, through Jesus Christ. Leave us not comfortless, O God, but send thy Holy Spirit to comfort us, and to exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before.

O God, pour into our hearts such love towards thee, that we, loving thee above all things, may obtain those promises which exceed all that we can desire. Give us the increase of faith, hope and charity; and, that we may obtain

that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command. Grant that all sinful affections may die in us, and all things belonging to the spirit may live and grow in us. Grant that we may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph against the Devil, the world, and the flesh. May thy grace always prevent and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works. O God, give us grace to forsake all covetous desires, and inordinate love of riches; and so may we follow thy saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys which thou hast prepared for them that unfeignedly love thee. Renew in us, O God, whatever has been decayed by the fraud or malice of the Devil, or by our own carnal will or frailty; and grant unto all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that we may avoid those things that are contrary to our profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same. Grant us, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right; graft in our hearts the love of thy name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness, and of thy great mercy, keep us in the same; put

away from us all hurtful things, and give us those things that are profitable for us. May we daily increase in thy Holy Spirit more and more, until we come to thy everlasting kingdom. O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully hear the prayers of all those who confess their sins unto thee. Turn thou them, O Lord, and so shall they be turned. Be favorable, O Lord, be favorable to thy people who turn to thee in weeping, and fasting, and praying; for thou art a merciful God, full of compassion, long suffering, and of great pity. Spare thy people, good Lord, spare them, and let not thine heritage be brought to confusion. Have mercy upon all Jews, Turks, infidels, and heretics; take from them all ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt of thy word; and so gather them home, blessed Lord, to thy flock, that they may be saved among the true Israelites, and be made one fold, under one shepherd, Jesus Christ. We pray, O God, for the people of these United States, and those who are appointed to rule over them. Most heartily we beseech thee with thy favor to behold and bless thy servant, the President of these United States, and all others in authority. Direct and prosper all their consultations to the advancement of

thy glory, the good of thy Church, the safety, honor and welfare of thy people. O Lord, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour, preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness. Be with thy ministers, O God, to the end of the world; replenish them with the truth of thy doctrine; endue them with innocency of life, that they may faithfully serve before thee, to the glory of thy great name and the benefit of thy Holy Church.

O God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered; make us, we beseech thee, deeply sensible of the shortness and uncertainty of human life; and let thy Holy Sprit lead us through this vale of misery in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives; that when we shall have served thee in our generation, we may be gathered unto our fathers, having the testimony of a good conscience; in the communion of the Catholic Church; in the confidence of a certain faith, in the comfort of a reasonable, religious and holy hope; in favor with thee our God, and in perfect charity with all the world. All which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, etc.

PRAYER XXIX.

FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.—*Morning.*

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; According to thy promises, declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of thy holy name.

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world

by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end.

O God, the creator and preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men, that thou wouldst be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for thy holy Church universal, that it may be so guided and governed by thy good spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted, or distressedin mind, body, or estate; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their suf-

ferings and an happy issue out of all their afflictions; and thiswe beg for Jesus Christ's sake.

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; defend us in the same with thy mighty power, and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings, being ordered by thy governance, may be righteous in thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise, when two or three are met together in thy name, to grant their requests; fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be expedient for them, granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER XXX.

Morning.

The following is a combination of three prayers of the celebrated Sir William Jones.

Eternal and incomprehensible mind, who, by thy boundless power, before time began, createdst innumerable worlds for thy glory, and innumerable orders of beings for their happiness, which thv in-

finite goodness prompted thee to desire, and thy infinite wisdom enabled thee to know; we, thy creatures, vanish into nothing before thy supreme majesty; we hourly feel our weakness; we daily bewail our vices; we continually acknowledge our folly; thee only we adore with awful veneration; thee we thank with the most fervent zeal; thee we praise with astonishment and rapture; to thy power we humbly submit; of thy goodness we devoutly implore protection; on thy wisdom we firmly and cheerfully rely. We do but open our eyes, and instantly we perceive thy divine existence; we do but exert our reason, and in a moment we discover thy divine attributes; but our eyes could not behold thy splendor, nor could our minds comprehend thy divine essence; we see thee only through thy stupendous and all-perfect works; we know thee only by that ray of sacred light which it has pleased thee to reveal. Nevertheless, if creatures too ignorant to conceive and too depraved to pursue the means of their own happiness, may, without presumption, express their wants to their Creator, let us humbly supplicate thee to remove from us that evil which thou hast permitted, for a time, to exist, that the ultimate good of all may be complete, and to secure us from that vice which thou sufferest to spread snares around us, that the triumph of virtue may be more conspicuous. Irra-

diate our minds with all useful truth; instil into our hearts a spirit of general benevolence; give understanding to the foolish; meekness to the proud; temperance to the dissolute; fortitude to the feeble hearted; hope to the desponding; faith to the unbelieving; diligence to the slothful; patience to those who are in pain, and thy celestial aid to those who are in danger; comfort the afflicted; relieve the distressed; supply the hungry with salutary food, and the thirsty with a plentiful stream. Impute not our doubts to indifference, nor our slowness of belief to hardness of heart; but be indulgent to our imperfect nature, and supply our imperfections by thy heavenly favor. Whenever we address thee in our retirement from the vanities of the world, if our prayers are foolish, pity us; if presumptuous, pardon us; if acceptable to thee, grant them, all-powerful God, grant them; and, as with our living voice, and with our dying lips, we will express our submission to thy decrees, adore thy providence, and bless thy dispensations, so, in all future states, to which we reverently hope thy goodness will raise us, grant that we may continue praising, admiring, venerating, and worshipping thee more and more, through worlds without number, and ages without end!

Do thou graciously accept our thanks, O giver of all good, for having preserved us an

night, and bestowed on us another day. O grant that on this day we may meditate on thy law with joyful veneration, and keep it in all our actions with firm obedience.

And, O thou bestower of all good, while it shall please thee to continue our easy tasks in this life, grant us strength to perform them as faithful servants; and when in thy wisdom thou shalt see fit to end them, admit us, not weighing our unworthiness, but through thy mercy declared in Christ, into thy heavenly mansions, that we may continually advance in happiness by advancing in true knowledge and awful love of thee. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all for evermore. Amen.

PRAYER XXXI.

A daily private prayer, suited to one who sustains the relations of father, master and husband, but which may be modified so as to be adapted to mothers, wives and mistresses, and, by the omission of certain parts, to any Christians.

O eternal Almighty, most holy but merciful Lord God; vouchsafe to hear the prayers of a poor sinful creature, who comes to thee weary and heavy laden with the burthen of his sins, but asking mercy and grace in the name of thy son Jesus Christ. O God, my sins are numerous and aggravated. My heart is hard. My mind is dark. My thoughts

are vain. My words are idle. I mispend my precious time. I abuse my talents. I neglect my duty. I forget thee, and disregard thy laws. I am earthly, sensual, devilish; being too much taken up with the things of this life; being under the power of my fleshly lusts, and having in me the evil tempers of the wicked one. I am prone to peevishness and anger. I fail in the duties of every relation of life. I want true love.

But, O God, guilty and wretched as I am, thou hast promised pardon and grace even to such as me. O that thou wouldst give me to see and feel the dreadful evil of sin, and make me truly to repent of all that is sinful in my heart and life. O that thou wouldst increase my faith in Jesus Christ, and fill my heart with his love. O that thou wouldst give me the constant help and comfort of thy Holy Spirit, that I may perform every duty aright, and rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory. O that thou wouldst give me grace to overcome sin, so that it may not have the dominion over me. O for a heart weaned from the world, and devoted to God. O for the graces of charity, meekness, sincerity, truth, justice, diligence, zeal, and purity. O for a loving heart to God and man. O for a tender conscience and self-denying temper, a mortified body, an humble spirit, a faithful soul, a heart ever thankful, a mind ever contented, and a will

always readily and cheerfully acquiescing in all the dispensations of Providence. O that it may ever be the chief desire of my soul, and constant labor of my life, to do good in the station wherein thou hast placed me.

For my children, O God, the prayer and desire of my heart is that they may be saved. Ever keep far from me all ambitious desires for them in this life. To thee and thy service I desire unreservedly to dedicate them. Teach me how, and give me grace, by example, instruction and godly discipline, to bring them up in thy nurture and admonition. Preserve them, O God, from the faults they behold in me, and let not my unworthiness prevent thy blessings from descending upon them. O that thou wouldst give me more patience, more love, more tenderness, more watchfulness, and more anxious solicitude for them. O that thou wouldst give thy Holy Spirit to them, that it may convert their souls to thee, and save them from everlasting misery.

O heavenly Master, hear me while I lift up my heart in prayer for those unfortunate beings who call me master. O God, make known unto me my whole duty towards them and their oppressed race, and give me courage and zeal to do it at all events. Convince me of sin, if I be wrong in retaining them another moment in bondage. While they are with me, give me grace to render unto them

what is just and equal, remembering that I have a master in heaven. Give me an earnest desire and longing for their spiritual welfare, and direct me into the best means of promoting it. Preserve me from all impatience and anger, and from all unreasonable expectations from them; from all unkindness of language, manner, or conduct towards them; from indulging a suspicious and complaining temper, and from that threatening which the Apostle forbids. May I take a generous pleasure in contributing to their happiness, and never suffer them to want for that food and raiment, and those other comforts which they so richly deserve at my hands. Bless the labor of their hands to our common benefit, and may the earth yield its fruits for our common use. But, above all, O God, convert their immortal souls by thy Spirit, and give them the glorious liberty of the sons of God.

I invoke thy blessing, also, O God, upon her whom thou hast given to be my companion in life. May I always love her, and never be bitter against her. May it ever be my delight to promote all her reasonable wants and desires. May she prove a great blessing to myself, my children and servants. Grant us a more pure and spiritual affection towards each other; and may our prayers ascend together fervently and effectually to a throne of grace; and, O God, if such a prayer be allow-

able, long may she be spared to her unworthy husband.

O God, enlarge my heart in love towards all mankind. Give me a candid, charitable and loving spirit towards all the followers of Christ. Give me a perfect sincerity in all matters of difference among Christians. May truth and thy glory be the only objects at which I aim. May I ever take a lively interest in all the good works which thy servants are promoting upon earth, and never be wanting in the most active and liberal assistance which my ability and opportunity will allow me to afford. O God, prosper thou all benevolent and religious institutions, and, especially, be with thy missionary servants in foreign lands, so that the glorious time may speedily arrive, when the whole world shall be covered with the knowledge of the Lord.

O God, be with me this day in all places and employments. Keep me this day from all evil, especially from sin. Set a guard before my mouth, and keep the door of my lips. May the spirit of Christ be in my heart, and the law of kindness on my tongue. May my conscience be void of offence both towards God and man. May I never be unmindful of thy presence; and ever may I think, speak and act as one soon to die, and to be eternally rewarded or punished according to the deeds

done in the body. Grant these things to a poor weak creature, who asks them in the name of one who is the only hope of sinners, Jesus Christ, the righteous, to whom, with the Father, etc.

PRAYER XXXII.

A prayer for young persons.

O thou most holy but most merciful God, I beseech thee to look down from heaven upon me, a poor, sinful and ignorant creature. I would wish, at this time, to pray unto thee, but I cannot do it unless thou assist me by thy Holy Spirit. Grant me, therefore, O God, that spirit which makes us to feel our sinfulness, and the need we have of such a Saviour as Jesus Christ. I know, O Lord, that my prayers cannot be acceptable to thee unless they come from the heart; and I am ashamed to think how often I have prayed without thinking of the words I was using. O God, I have now come to that age when thou requirest of me to love thee with all my heart. But I do not thus love thee. While so many have become thy dear children, by adoption and grace, before they have reached my age, I am yet in a state of nature, living in sin, unfit to die, unmeet for heaven. O may this thought continually distress my mind, and lead me to prayer, that I may obtain a new heart, and the assurance of thy pardon through Jesus Christ. O

Lord, since my everlasting happiness or misery depends upon it, draw my heart to thee by the gentle influences of thy loving spirit, and make me to hate sin and delight in holiness. Give me grace to obey the injunctions of my dear parents or friends, who are anxious for my good, and always to remember how grieved they are when I go astray. Bless me in all my reading of thy holy word, and my studies of other books, and may I daily grow wiser, and better, and happier.

Particularly, O God, I beseech thee, to watch over me for good this day. Keep me from every evil, and, above all, from sin. Let me always remember that thou art near me, beholding the evil and the good. May I speak the truth from my heart, and always do to others as I would they should do to me. All these things I beg in the name of my blessed Saviour, in whose own precious words I know that thou wilt always delight to hear me pray. Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven: give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

PRAYER XXXIII.

A prayer to be used by Parents, taken from the Baptismal and Confirmation Offices.

Almighty and everlasting God, Heavenly Father, we beseech thee of thine infinite mercies, that thou wouldst mercifully look upon our children, and give unto them thy Holy Spirit, that they may be born again, and be made heirs of everlasting salvation. Grant that the old Adam in them may be so buried, that the new man may be raised up in them. Grant that all sinful affections may die in them, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in them. Grant that they may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph against the Devil, the world, and the flesh. Grant that they who have been dedicated to thee in baptism, may enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing, and, receiving the fulness of thy grace, may ever remain in the number of thy faithful children.

O thou, who didst save Noah and his family in the ark from perishing by water, grant that our children being delivered from wrath, may be received into the ark of Christ's Church; and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in charity, may so pass the waves of this troublesome world, that finally they may come to the

land of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Vouchsafe to direct, sanctify, and govern both their hearts and bodies in the ways of thy laws, and in the works of thy commandments; make them both to will and to do those things which are good and acceptable unto thy divine majesty. Let thy fatherly hand, we beseech thee, ever be over them: let thy Holy Spirit be ever with them; and defend them, O Lord, with thy heavenly grace, that they may continue thine for ever, and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit more and more, until they come to thy everlasting kingdom. Amen.

PRAYER XXXIV.

A prayer to be used by Ministers for themselves, taken from the Office of Institution and the Ordination services.

O Lord, my God, am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof; yet thou hast honored thy servant with appointing him to stand in thy house and serve at thy holy altar. To thee and thy service I devote myself, soul, body, and spirit, with all their powers and faculties. Fill my memory with the word of thy law; enlighten my understanding with the illumination of the Holy Ghost; and may all the wishes and desires of my will centre in what thou hast commanded. Be

ever with me in the performance of all the duties of my ministry; in prayer, to quicken my devotion; in praises, to heighten my love and gratitude; and in preaching, to give a readiness of thought and expression suitable to the clearness and excellency of thy word.

Grant me grace, O God, to be diligent in prayer, and in reading the holy scriptures, and in such studies as help to the knowledge of thy name, laying aside the study of the world and the flesh.

Grant me grace to frame and fashion myself and family according to the doctrine of Christ, and to make both myself and it, as much as in us lieth, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ. Help me to maintain and set forward, as much as lieth in me, quietness, peace and love among all Christian people, and especially among them that are or shall be committed to my charge.

Help me reverently to obey all those who, according to the canons of the Church, may have the charge and government over me; following with a glad mind and will, their godly admonitions, and submitting myself to their godly judgments.

Make me ready with all faithful diligence to banish and drive away from the Church all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's word; and to use both public and private moni-

tions and exhortations, as well to the rich as the poor within my cure, as need shall require, and occasion shall be given.

Enable me to deny all ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world, that, I may show myself, in all things, an example of good works, that the adversary may be ashamed, having nothing to say against me.

Almighty God, who hast given unto me a good will to do all these things, grant also unto me strength and power to perform the same, *that* accomplishing in me the good work which thou hast begun, I may be found perfect and irreprehensible at the latter day, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[We hope that none will mistake so much as to suppose that the following penitential exercises, from the holy and eloquent Bishop Taylor, are only designed for the vilest of unconverted sinners. The purest of saints in every age, have found such confessions and prayers but too suitable to their case. Would all Christians use this guide to penitence once every week, and try and enter deeply into its meaning, who can doubt but that they would become thereby better acquainted with the corruptions of their hearts, and more humbly dependent upon divine mercy for their salvation. The author of the foregoing collection of family prayers, would beg leave earnestly to recommend the weekly use of this most striking confessional, of one of the most interesting and gifted of Christian divines.]

A GUIDE FOR THE PENITENT.

ABRIDGED FROM BISHOP TAYLOR.

A Litany of confession, to be made use of by the penitent soul, that finds itself burthened with a true sense of sin.

I.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that being a creature of thine, and made by thee capable of enjoying everlasting felicity, I have lived so wickedly and lewdly, that unless thy mercy prevent it, I shall utterly forfeit the very end of my creation.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.

I am utterly ashamed of it.

Lord be thou merciful to me a sinner.

II.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that I have trifled away so many of my youngest days without knowing thee, or taking notice of any of those strict duties which I did owe unto thee; that I was so long a child in all things, excepting innocence; and that only by an over-hasty spring of early wickedness, I was more than a child.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.

I am utterly ashamed of it.

Lord be thou merciful to me a sinner.

III.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that as I grew up, the seeds of corruption which I brought with me into the world grew up along with me, and by insensible degrees, pride and folly, and lust took possession of me, and sin hath reigned in my mortal body.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.

I am infinitely confounded at it.

Lord be thou merciful to me a sinner.

IV.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that having been received into the bosom of thy Church, (which so many souls have not had the happiness to be,) I have ungratefully dishonored thy holy faith by an unholy life; and having so often confessed thee with my tongue, I have denied thee in mylife and actions.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.

I accuse, and judge, and condemn myself for it.

Lord be thou merciful to me a sinner.

V.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that having abjured the Devil and all his works, and given up my name to Christ, to fight under the banner of the cross, I have on the contrary, treacherously complied with his enemy in many things, and shall be found (I fear) to have been more diligent in serving him, than I have been in serving thee.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.

I am confounded and astonished at it.

Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

VI.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that being farther bound by that most solemn vow, utterly to forsake the sinful lusts of the flesh, I have, instead of forsaking them, pursued and hunted after them; and when other temptations have failed, have been apt enough to kindle my own fire, and to be a tempter to myself.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.

I hate, and loath, and abhor myself for it.

Lord be thou merciful to me a sinner.

VII.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that knowing thy revealed will to be the law to which I was bound in all obedience to submit

myself, I like an insolent rebel, have not only set up my own will in opposition to thine, but many times preferred it before thine, and have listened more to the false oracles of flesh and blood than to all thy holy commandments.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I accuse, and judge, and condemn myself for it.
Lord be thou merciful to me a sinner.

VIII.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that having received a rational soul from thee, to be a moral light and guide unto my actions, I have been so brutish as to follow my sensual appetite instead of it, and have made no farther use of reason than to find out vain excuses to cozen my own soul into all the byeways of sin and error.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I accuse and judge, and condemn myself for it.
Lord be thou merciful to me a sinner.

IX.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that being endowed with memory to serve as a magazine to treasure up thy precepts and holy councils in, I have stuffed it so miserably full with the ideas of former vanities and sins, that I have left no room for thee at all.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I infinitely condemn myself for it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

X.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that having received a heart from thee to be the seat of clean and holy affections, I have so unworthily abused and altered the property of it, that it is now become a den of thieves, and an unhandsome receptacle of all uncleanness.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I hate, and loath, and abhor myself for it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XI.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that my wretched heart being corrupted, my imagination hath run wildly after with a swarm of vain and sinful thoughts, which, like importunate flies, being driven away, light again and again upon my distracted soul, and intermingle with the best of my devotions.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I am infinitely troubled and grieved for it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XII.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that mine eyes being greedy after vanity, have been, upon all occasions, as open windows to let in sin; but when, by the same way, they should have issued out penitential tears, to wash away the stains those sins have made, there hath been no passage found for them.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I am inwardly grieved, and deplore myself for it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XIII.

Wo, wo, unto me, O my God, that for the entertaining of vain conversation, I have left mine ears too often open to light, and vain, and sinful discourses, and, in all my inquiries, have hearkened more to what the world saith abroad, than to what thy Holy Spirit and my own conscience say within me.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I accuse, and judge, and condemn myself for it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XIV.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that I have not resolved, with thy servant David, to take care of my ways, that I offend not in my tongue, but have many times vainly and inconsiderately let it loose, and, either to please the company or myself, I have spoken words which might, unhappily, prove occasion of sin both to them and me, without regard, or remembering how great flames such little sparks might kindle.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I do infinitely condemn myself for it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XV.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that all the parts and faculties of my soul and body have been abused, and have not served the laws of their Creator, but have so eagerly and constantly pursued the corrupt desires of a seduced heart, that I have cause to fear that either my whole life may be looked upon as one continued sin, or, at least, as having admitted of so few inconsiderable pauses, that, if thou shouldst enter into strict judgment with me, I should not have the confidence to say when, or where, or wherein, I have been innocent.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I am confounded and astonished at it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XVI.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that I have wretchedly failed, even in my best endeavors; that I have been cold in my devotions, weary of my prayers, inconstant to good purposes, dull and heavy in the way to heaven, but quick and active in all the ways of sin—having made it the whole business of my life rather to seem to be religious than really to be so.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I accuse, and judge, and condemn myself for it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XVII.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that I have not washed mine hands in innocency, when I have gone unto thine altar, nor made my heart ready to receive the bread that came from heaven, but have failed in my preparations, and have not sufficiently considered either mine own unworthiness, or the high secrets of so great a mystery.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I am grieved and troubled at it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XVIII.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that, having so often received those inestimable pledges of thy love, the precious body and blood of thy dear Son in the holy sacrament, I have been so unwary as to admit my former sins under the same roof with thee, and have, unhappily, done what lay in me to drive thee from me.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I am infinitely ashamed at it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XIX.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that, my repentance, the only plank left me in the shipwreck of my soul, hath been so weak, so slight, and so unsteady, that every small blast of a new temptation hath been able to drive me from it, and, by frequent relapses into sin, gives me cause enough to repent even of my vain repentance.

But I repent again, O God, again I repent.
I hate, and loath, and abhor myself for it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XX.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that, having received my life, and being, and preservation from thee, with so many advantages to have made me happy in this world and blessed in the next, I have been so abominably unthankful, that I have cast all these thy blessings behind me, and returned thee nothing back for all thy favors, but affronts, and injuries, and sins.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I am confounded and astonished at it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XXI.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that, being redeemed by the death and passion of thy dear and only Son, I have not laid his bitter agonies to heart, nor made right use of the precious ransom which was laid down for me: that I have not yet sued out my pardon with such penitent tears as thou requirest, nor laid hold of the benefits of it by a lively faith; but have chosen, rather stupidly, to continue in my sins, and to neglect the blood of the covenant as an unholy thing.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I hate, and loath, and abhor myself for it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XXII.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that thy Holy Spirit I have grieved, thy counsels I have rejected, thy motions I have quenched, and have entertained the lusts and vanities of this life with far more earnest and passionate affections than all thy holy inspirations.

But I repent, O my God, I repent.
I am u terly ashamed and confounded at it.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

XXIII.

Wo, wo, unto me, O God, that, having thus far opened my heart before thee, I have left so many sins behind, that I cannot remember them; some that I have really forgot, some that I would forget, if my conscience would give me leave; sins known, that I cannot conceal, and sins secret, such as I have taken so much care to hide from others, that they are now become hidden from myself.

But whatsoever they are, or wheresoever they are registered, whether in my own conscience or in any other record, that may be proved against me in the day of judgment,

I call the whole court of heaven to witness,
That I do sadly repent myself of them all;
That I do abhor myself for them all;
That I resolve steadfastly to renounce them all.
Lord, be thou merciful to me a sinner.

[After this, these express acts of contrition may follow.]

I am grieved, O my God, I am grieved, passionately, heartily grieved, that ever I offended thee.

That I, the work of thy hands, have sinned against thee my Maker.

That I, the price of thy blood, have sinned against thee, my Jesus, who hadst so much love for me as to be content to die for me.

Th. t I, the chosen temple of thy Holy Spirit, have sinned against him who sanctified me.

For this I grieve and mourn, and my heart is wounded within me.

And having done all this, yet I have not done; for still I am grieved—grieved that I can grieve no more, that my head is not a continual spring, and mine eyes fountains of tears.

Wo is me, wretch as I am, that I, who have been so easy, so forward, so eager to sin, should be so untoward, so heavy, so unable to repent.

Wo is me, that I should still be so drowsy, so dead asleep in sin, that I should not be yet awake, and sensible of the condition I am in.

O that I had died before my unworthy soul had given way to those first sins, which have drawn so foul a train after them.

But, O my God, though I cannot wait on thee among the innocent, yet deny me not a room among the penitent.

Of myself, O God, I am utterly unable, and which way to satisfy thee I know not.

I dare not say so much as the servant in the gospel did, "Master, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all." But, rather, Master, have patience with me, for I can pay thee nothing at all, unless thy bounty be so great as to give it me to pay thee.

Should I fast myself into air and emptiness, and weep myself into water; should I tear the skin from this sinful flesh of mine, I should never be able to satisfy for the least of those millions of millions of sins, which, through the several moments of my life, either ignorantly or knowingly, weakly or wilfully, I have sinned against thee.

But the comfort is (and blessed shall be my soul if I rightly lay hold of it,) that it is thou, O my blessed Jesus, who has satisfied for me, one drop of whose blood is enough to satisfy for the sins of a thousand worlds.

And this being so, will thy offended Father be so rigorous

as to require the same payment again? Especially, will he require it of me, a poor, a broken, and a bankrupt sinner?

Canst thou exact the utmost farthing of him who hath not a mite of his own to pay thee?

The transition of the penitent from acts of contrition to acts of holy resolution.

But because by thy infinite mercy, O my God, thou hast satisfied for me already, shall I, therefore, fold my arms and sit down and do nothing towards it? Or, which is worse, shall I go on? Shall I continue in my sins that grace may abound?

No; God forbid.

No; I here resolve rather to die the death, than ever wilfully to sin against thee more.

I do here resolve utterly to avoid the temptations and approaches towards those former sins, which have hitherto so miserably betrayed me.

I do here resolve, thy Holy Spirit assisting me, upon all the duties of a new life; to be hereafter more wary in my ways, and more constant to good resolutions; to love thee above all the pleasures and interests of this life, and sadly to consider what an infinite loser I should be, if, to gain all that my corrupt heart desires, I should lose thee.

If, after all this, I should be so miserably forgetful, both of myself and thee, as shamefully to relapse into any of those sins which I have now repented of, I do here once more resolve to abhor and loathe myself for it, and not to let my conscience sleep or admit of any rest, till I have, with bitter tears and sharp reiterated repentance, obtained my pardon.

The penitent now betakes himself to prayer.

And now, O thou great searcher of hearts, who seest that I am of myself weak and mutable, and no better than a reed

shaken with the wind, O shew thy strength in my weakness; fasten and confirm me in these good purposes, and so bind them with cords unto thine altar, that I may never depart from thee more, or be any longer of those whose good resolutions are as a dream in the night, or, if they last any longer, they are but as the next morning dew, and as soon vanish away.

O give me the resolution of thy servant Joshua:

I and my house will serve the Lord.

O give me the heart of thy servant David, who so passionately makes his protestation:

I will take no wicked thing in hand, I hate the sins of unfaithfulness; there shall no such cleave unto me.

I will walk in my house with a perfect heart.

I have sworn and am steadfastly prepared to keep thy righteous judgments.

Lord, I am not able to think one of these good thoughts without thee, much less to revolve upon them.

But I who, without thee, am able to do nothing, may venture to say as thine Apostles did, that in thee I am able to do all things.

Lord give me strength to do what thou requirest. and then require of me what thou pleasest.

After these resolutions, the penitent prepares himself, with an humble soul and bended knees, to beg pardon.

Lord, carest thou not that I perish? Thou that wouldst have all men saved? Thou who would have none perish?

And wilt thou now show thine anger against a worm, against a leaf, against a vapour that vanishes before thee?

O remember how short my time is, and deliver not my soul into the power of hell.

For, alas! what profit is there in my blood? or who shall ever give thee thanks in that bottomless pit?

No, let me live in thy sight: let me live, O my God, that my soul may praise thee.

Forget me as I have been, disobedient, provoking thee to anger; and regard me as I am, distressed, crying out to thee for help.

Look not upon me as I am, a sinner; but consider me as I am, thy creature.

A sinner I am, I confess, a sinner of no ordinary strain; but let not this hinder thee, O my God, for upon such sinners thou gettest the greatest glory.

O remember for whose sake it was that thou camest from the bosom of thy Father, and didst let thyself down so low as to be content to be born of thine own humble handmaid.

Remember for whom it was that thy tender body was torn, and scourged and crucified, and thy precious blood shed.

Was it not for the sins of the whole world? And shall I be so narrow-hearted to my own soul, or so injurious to thy glory, as to think that in all this crowd thou hast particularly excepted me?

Or, which is as great a dishonor to thee, can I possibly imagine that thou diedst only for sinners of a lower kind, and left such as I am without remedy?

What had become then of him who filled Jerusalem with blood?

What of the noted woman who had lived in a trade of sin? Nay, what had become of thine own disciple, who with oaths and curses thrice denied thee?

O how easy is it for thee to forgive, for it is thy nature.

How proper it is for thee to save, for it is thy name.

How suitable is it to thy only end of coming into the world, for it is thy business.

And when I consider that I am the chief of sinners, may I not urge the Father, and say, shall the very chief of thy business be left undone?

Mercy, mercy good Lord.

I ask not of thee any longer the things of this world; neither power, nor honors, nor riches, nor pleasures. No, my God, dispose of them to whom thou pleasest, so that thou givest me mercy.

O that I could hear thee once say, as thou didst to him in the gospel, "My son, be of good cheer, thy sins are forgiven thee."

How would my drooping spirits revive at such a sound, and my now wounded soul break forth into hymns, and praises, and hallelujahs, for a mercy so utterly undeserved of me, and which the angels which fell could never hear of.

But, O my weak soul, what dost thou fear? or what dost thou scruple at? For thou art not yet in such a desperate condition, but thou mayst expect that what was said to him may possibly be said to thee.

Nay, be confident (though it be with a mixture of fear and trembling) that if thou dost not act the part of an hypocrite all this while, thy Saviour stands ready at the very doors of thy heart, to breathe the very same words in a heavenly whisper to thee: "Be of good cheer, thy sins are forgiven thee."

Return unto thy rest, O my soul, for thy sins are forgiven thee.

Only take this counsel along with thee, "Sin no more, lest a worse thing fall unto thee."

O that I could never sin against thee more; never purposely, deliberately, wilfully sin against thee more.

And for those sins of daily incursion, these over familiar corruptions of my nature, which thou hast not yet given me strength enough to conquer, Lord, either subdue them to me by degrees, or lay them not to my charge.

But whereinsoever my conscience most accuseth, therein, O my God, be thou most merciful unto me.

Save me, O God, as a brand snatched out of the fire.

Receive me, O my Jesus, as a sheep that hath wandered, but is now returned to the great Shepherd and Bishop of my soul.

The jubilee of the penitent soul after the sense of pardon obtained.

Rejoice over me, O God the Father, that this thy child was lost, but is found, was dead, but is alive again.

Rejoice over me, O God the Son, that thy loud cries, and tears, and bitter agonies, which for my sake thou enduredst upon the cross, were not so unhappily lost as to be cast away in vain upon me.

Rejoice over me, O God the Holy Ghost, that thy so many secret and powerful touches have at last got the upper hand of me.

Rejoice over me, O ye holy Angels, a great part of whose ministry it is to rejoice at the conversion of a sinner.

Rejoice over thyself, O my soul, that thou hast received so much grace from heaven this day, as sadly to confess thy sins, seriously to repent of them, and steadfastly to resolve never to be guilty more of so much brutishness as to be likened to the dog that returns to his vomit, or to the swine wallowing in the mire.

The penitent closeth all with this short prayer.

Let this day, O my God, be noted in thy book.

Do not thou forget my prayers, nor suffer me to forget my resolutions.

For though I am weak, though I am unworthy, though I unprofitable, yet I am thy servant.

And here upon my bended knees I humbly beg of thee, that I may live and die so.

Lord, hear my prayers, and let my cry come unto thee.

Lord, pardon my prayers, and let not my coldness, and wanderings, and infinite unworthiness turn them into sin.

Lord, hear my prayers, and let my cry come unto thee. Amen, amen.

The following lamentation over sin is taken from the celebrated work of the good Thomas-a-Kempis, entitled, "The Imitation of Christ." It will be found to suit but too well the case of many Christians mourning over their short comings and backslidings.

O Lord God, what shall ever be done with me since I fail every day? How shall I amend my life? When will it be better with me? When shall I recover strength? And when shall I overcome all? I am fallen down into a deep pit.

Thinkest thou, O Lord, that there may be yet any hopes of my rising again, of my amending, and of my safe arising? I have no hope at all for myself. O that it may be strong in thee! for mighty despair is thrown upon me, because of my infirmity, which through long vexation grows upon me very much. Neither can I see any end of my grief, of my iniquity. And though I should say, now I will begin, I will endeavor to my very utmost, sin presently stands at the door, and my enemy is lifted up against me, and the habit of evil holds me captive against my will. Behold, O Lord, the dejectedness of my state, and how I am trod down, and what calamity I endure. Let thy right hand be lifted up, and deliver thou me from them that have shut me up, for fear of them has fallen upon me. Counsel hath perished from me, and strength hath failed me. My arm also is broken, and my sword will not be able to save me. I see not unto whom I can turn myself; neither doth any one appear that may relieve and take care of me. Thou alone remainest a refuge for me; but because I have offended thee, therefore this deterrest me. I have

sinned; O pardon me. All that is within me doth repent yea very bitterly. Do unto me Lord what seemeth right in thy sight, and be thou reconciled unto me. Justly hast thou indeed forsaken me, and delivered me over to the adversary. Yet remember, I beseech thee, the work of thy hand; and raise up again what is fallen, since of itself it was not able to stand. Give ear unto my groaning, and attend to my necessity. Let not my distress and the grief of my heart be had in forgetfulness before thee. Have regard, merciful Father, to my captivity and imprisonment, and to the oppression which I suffer from sin; lead me forth out of the house of miserable bondage wherein I am bound fast and kept prisoner.

The compiler of this little volume of prayers knows not how he can better conclude it, than with the following exquisite piece of devotion from the works of the amiable and pious Fenelon. It most happily describes the meek and lowly state of mind to which some Christians attain, and which we seek after.

"Lord, teach us to pray."—Luke ii. 1.

O Lord, I know not what I should ask of thee. Thou only knowest what I want; and thou lovest me better than I can love myself. O Lord, give to me, thy child, what is proper, whatsoever it may be. I dare not ask either crosses or comforts. I only present myself before thee. I open my heart to thee. Behold my wants which I am ignorant of; but do thou behold, and do according to thy mercy. Smite or heal; depress or raise me up. I adore all thy purposes without knowing them. I am silent. I offer myself in sacrifice. I abandon myself to thee. I have no more any desire but to accomplish thy will. Teach me to pray. Pray thou thyself in me.

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ERRATA.

Page 1, instead of "Mead," read—Meade.
Page 7, line 17, instead of "prayer," read prayers.
Page 10, lines 6 and 7, instead of "love," read law; and line 12, instead of "livest," read—liveth.
Page 11, lines 4 and 5, from the bottom, the note of interrogation ought to be after wonder, and not after "thee."
Page 12, line 2, instead of "compassion," read—compassions.
Page 17, line 22, instead of "love," read—law.
Page 18, line 5 from bottom, instead of "peace," read—pure.
Page 21, line 13, instead of "even," read—ever; Temples, instead of "Temple."
Page 81, line 9, instead of "goodly," read—godly.
Page 103, line 9, instead of "thy name," read—the same.
Page 119, line 9, instead of "arising," read arriving.
Page 120, line 17. after "we" insert—all should.